

# Project Completion Report

**Grant No.: 118-G-00-06-00035**

**“Support to HIV/AIDS and Drug Use Prevention  
Programs in Russia”**

**12 May 2006 – 31 December 2012**

**Award recipient:** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UNODC  
Office for the Russian Federation (UNODC PORUS)

**Reported by:** S. Pkhidenko, Project Coordinator, Drug Abuse/HIV/AIDS,  
UNODC for the Russian Federation

T. Norov, Project Associate, UNODC for the Russian  
Federation

## Basic Information on the Project

<b>Project/Sub-programme Number:</b>	TDRUSJ12
<b>Title:</b>	“Support to HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse Prevention Programs in the Russian Federation”
<b>Duration (years/months)</b>	6 years 4 month Phase I: 29 August 2006 – 31 March 2011 Phase II: 1 April 2011 – 31 December 2012
<b>Starting Date</b>	29 August 2006
<b>Location(s) *</b>	Moscow, Russian Federation
<b>Responsible Office:</b>	UNODC Office for the Russian Federation
<b>UNODC Regional / Country or Thematic Programme Outcome to which this programme/project directly contributes *</b>	Thematic programme 5 Health and livelihoods (combating drugs and HIV) (a) Increased implementation at the national level of evidence based services related to drug use and HIV/AIDS in the community; (b) Individuals living in prison settings being less vulnerable to drug use and HIV/AIDS.
<b>Executing Agency</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
<b>Government Implementing Agency/Partners *</b>	The National Research Center on Addictions (NRCA) Ministry of Health and Social Development
<b>Overall Budget</b>	US\$ 3,455,089
<b>Donor(s)</b>	USAID, Sweden

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## Acronyms

AFEW	Aids Foundation East-West
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
FDCS	Federal Drug Control Service
FSIN	Federal Penitentiary System
GFATM	Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS Tuberculosis and Malaria
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDU	Injecting Drug User
IEU	Independent Evaluation Unit
MARPs	Most At Risk Populations
MAT	Medically Assisted Therapy
MoHSD	Ministry of Health and Social Development
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRCA	National Research Center on Addictions
NSP	Needle and Syringe Exchange Programme
OSI	Open Society Institute – Soros Foundation
OST	Opioid Substitution Therapy
PLWHIV	People living with HIV
PWID	People who inject drugs
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS
UNGASS	United Nations General Assembly Special Session
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
WHO	World Health Organization



## Executive Summary

This project aimed to take measures to reduce the impact of IDU-driven HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Russian Federation through increased provision of comprehensive HIV/AIDS services including substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation. The project was successfully delivered and the majority of the key outcomes and outputs were implemented.

During the Phase I the project (12 May 2006- 31 March 2011) contributed into increased capacity of 9 penitentiary institutions in St. Petersburg and Orenburg to deliver effective HIV/AIDS prevention and behavior change interventions. As the result of capacity building events in 2007 - 2010 4,423 inmates were covered by HIV-prevention interventions and 2,635 inmates received individual HIV/AIDS and IDU related counseling. Two networks of pre- and post-release service providers are became operational at both pilot sites and expanded the number and range of services for HIV positive detainees and IDUs. The number of consultations and other services delivered by the post-release service units and the partner organizations to former inmates increased from 570 - in 2007 to 4,055 consultations in 2010. In 2010-2011 the City model of medico-social services to HIV-positive female IDUs who are former detainees was established and institutionalized in St. Petersburg. In 2011 508 women inmates were covered by group HIV-prevention interventions under this program; 88 women former inmates received HIV-prevention and care services at post-release stage.

During the Phase II of the project (1 April 2011- 31 December 2012), UNODC PORUS conducted seven meetings of two Thematic Expert Working groups on development of recommendations to normative documents related to integration of HIV prevention, treatment and care practices into substance dependence treatment service and in prisons. Seven recommendations for policy and normative documents were developed. Project supported five HIV prevention and care programmes for people who inject drugs, prisoners, and former inmates IDUs at two sites (St. Petersburg and Perm). The total number of new clients (IDUs) covered by low-threshold HIV-prevention programs was 2,629 (1,253 males and 1,376 women including 114 pregnant IDUs), among them 787 clients received at least one medical/care service (247 males, 429 females and 111 pregnant IDUs). The total number of new female inmates and female former detainees including IDUs and HIV-positive in St. Petersburg was 756 (603 clients covered by HIV-related services at pre-release stage and 153 provided with medico-social serviced at post-release stage).

Two master-classes on integration of HIV related services with narcological support for people who inject drugs including HIV-positive IDUs were conducted in 2011 and 2012. 40 professionals from 26 regions of the Russian Federation benefitted from capacity building events. 55% (22 persons) of trainees were women. UNODC PORUS promoted 6 high level policy discussions among professionals and policy makers related to HIV prevention and care among people who inject drugs (PWID) and different aspects of substance dependence treatment. In total, 352 public health professionals, decision makers, representatives of legislative and executive authorities, international organizations, academia, and civil society benefited from the supported events.

Due to the Russian government's decision the Donor (USAID/Russia) terminated its activities in the Russian Federation starting from October 1, 2012 (a letter of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 12 September, 2012). UNODC PORUS was requested by the Donor (USAID) to terminate RUSJ12 project beginning October 1, 2012, end activities and start an orderly close out of USAID-funded project, to be completed on 31 December 2012.



## Background

The project TDRUSJ12 “Support to HIV/AIDS and Substance Dependence Prevention Programs in the Russian Federation” was approved by the UNODC Executive Director on 8 June, 2006. The project is executed within the framework of the UNAIDS initiative *Coordination in Action: Applying Three Ones principles in Russian Federation* in order to help the Russian Government deal with the twin epidemic of HIV and injecting drug use. As of February 2007, according to the Russian Federal AIDS Centre around 377,000 cumulative cases of HIV were officially registered in the country, and over 80% of registered HIV cases with known routes of transmission were attributed to injecting drug use. The driving force behind the HIV/AIDS epidemic across the Russian Federation has been, and continues to be, injecting drug use. Injecting drug use takes place primarily within particular vulnerable and marginalized groups, including sex workers, prisoners/detainees, and vulnerable youth, especially young men. The project sites were the city of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast, and the city of Orenburg and Orenburg Oblast.

The project objective was to increase the access to effective HIV/AIDS prevention and drug treatment and rehabilitation services in order to increase adherence to antiretroviral (ART) treatment and to reduce the impact of the IDU-driven HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Russian Federation. The project sites were the city of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast, and the city of Orenburg and Orenburg Oblast. The Program objectives were as follows:

1. To increase awareness and knowledge among public health workers, FDCS and prison staff on the delivery of effective HIV/AIDS and drug treatment programs (including medically assisted treatment of opiate dependence) for high-risk groups.
2. To increase capacity to deliver effective drug treatment, rehabilitation, and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services for IDUs and PLWHA at places of detention and in post-release stage.
3. To introduce multisectoral pre- and post-release HIV/AIDS prevention and care services for detainees in Leningrad and Orenburg Oblasts.

The project operated at two levels: (1) at the Federal level the project targeted the senior policy makers and aimed to raise their awareness on effectiveness of international best practices for HIV and substance dependence prevention and treatment for opiate addicts; (2) at regional level the project enabled the creation of sustainable and high-quality referral services for the most vulnerable populations (former inmates) in order to increase their access to ARV treatment. The project strategy envisaged development of case-management system for PLWHIV in pre- and post-release stage. The target groups of the project included detainees and released HIV-positive persons and injecting drug users, civil society organizations providing outreach work, civil society organizations providing HIV/AIDS prevention and care services, drug treatment and rehabilitation services, medical services of the Federal Penal System (FSIN), officers of FSIN and Federal Drug Control Service (FDCS). Through educational activities the project also targeted substance abuse, HIV, infectious disease, health, and social welfare professionals.

The operational activities under the project started in October 2006. The project original duration was three years (12 May 2006 – 11 May, 2009). However, there were two Project extensions and revisions: (1) in July 2009 after an agreement with the Donor was reached the project budget was increased by \$800,000 and the project duration was extended until 31 December 2010. It included also additional activities on introduction of evidence-based practices on substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation for IDUs including HIV-positive, dissemination of models of pre- and post-release services developed under the project, and increase awareness on internationally recognized approaches to assess and monitor treatment and rehabilitation of substance users including HIV-positive IDUs; (2) In July 2010 no cost extension for the project was approved until 31 March 2011 in order to complete the project activities and conduct the final project evaluation.

As per 31 January 2011 the total approved budget of the project was 2,200,000USD. The project was funded by the US Agency on International Development (USAID), Russia Office (from PEPFAR funds) (2,100,000USD) and Sweden (100,000USD).

However, in February 2011 USAID/Russia approved new UNODC PORUS proposal for project cost-extension. Under the Modification N5 of the grant 118-G-00-06-00035-00 (dated 6 February 2011) USAID/Russia committed to increase the total estimated amount for the project by \$1,500,000 and to extend the time frame of the project for 3 years period (01 April 2011 - 31 March 2014) till 31 March 2014.

While keeping the advocacy efforts and activities to increase awareness on evidence based HIV/AIDS and substance dependence treatment programs to vulnerable groups, UNODC PORUS in the Phase II of the project (2011- 2012) continued to provide advice and guidance to government and NGOs on effective measures to scale up HIV prevention for people who inject drugs, and to reduce stigma and discrimination; foster high-level policy dialogue among policy makers, experts and civil society to promote comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care package for people who use drugs and improvement of narcological services as a means of HIV services.



## Results Produced on Outcomes/Outputs Level

Phase I: 29 August 2006 – 31 March 2011

**Outcome 1:** Relevant authorities and professionals (representatives of public health, drug control, police, prison, and other agencies) apply increased knowledge of international best practices to the delivery of effective HIV/AIDS and drug treatment programmes, including medically assisted treatment (MAT).

**Output 1.** Increased knowledge on delivery of effective HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care including substance dependence treatment (such as MAT) for high risk groups among representatives of public health, drug control, police, prison, and other agencies.

### Achievements on indicators/targets:

#### *Planned targets:*

- At least 100 Federal Drug Control Service staff members trained on the role of medication assisted drug treatment programs;
- At least 60 prison staff members trained on HIV-related stigma and discrimination reduction;
- At least 60 drug abuse and HIV professionals trained on internationally recognized best practices at master-classes;
- At least 14 policy-makers, FDSC, drug abuse and HIV professionals participated in the study visits on internationally recognized best practices;
- Information on internationally recognized best practices is available and disseminated.

#### *Achieved results:*

- (2006) *Achieved.* 155 Federal Drug Control Service staff members trained on the role of medication assisted drug treatment programs.
- (2008) *Achieved.* 65 prison professionals trained on HIV-related stigma and discrimination issues.
- (2009-2010) *Achieved.* 113 drug abuse professionals trained on internationally recognized best practices at the master-classes. 63 professionals trained in 2009. 50 professionals trained in 2010.
- (2006-2010) *Achieved.* 17 professionals participated in the study visits on integrated care and social support for IDUs and PLWHIV. 4 professionals participated in study visit to London (UK) in 2007. 13 professionals participated in two study visits to Vienna (Austria) and New York (USA) in 2010.
- (2010-2011) *Achieved.* Questionnaire on assessment of HIV-related risks among IDUs and recommendations on risk reduction among IDUs are available and disseminated at the round table in Orenburg (January 2011).

**Activity 1.1** Advocate for the introduction of medication assisted treatment (MAT) pilot programmes for opiate addicts through preparation of study tour for FDSC and narcologists to London.

RORB organized the first study tour to London for high-ranking officers from the Federal Drug Control Service (FDSC) (3-10 December 2006). The main aim of the study tour was to demonstrate the effectiveness of MAT programmes in a setting where extensive experience has been acquired (i.e. the UK) as a means for reducing HIV infections and drug-related offending. The study tour group comprised seven FDSC senior officers including the Deputy Chief of the FDSC, two Generals and three Colonels. RORB expected that the presentations, underpinned by robust academic research, will stimulate in-depth discussion and help to inform the on-going debate in Russia over the advantages and disadvantages of MAT.

The second study tour entitled “HIV and Substance Dependence Prevention, Treatment and Care in the UK” was conducted during the period 16-22 December 2007 and organized jointly with another UNODC J17 project on co-funding basis. It aimed at increasing understanding on the benefits of medication assisted treatment (MAT) to prevent HIV/AIDS among injecting drug users UNODC RORB organized a study tour to London, UK. 4 people from FDSC participated in the study tour. They increased knowledge



and awareness on the advantages and disadvantages of MAT program for people who inject drugs (see the Table 1).

**Activity 1.2** Seminars for Federal Drug Control Service (FDCS) on the role of medication assisted drug treatment programs.

Three seminars (in Volgograd, Kurgan, Irkutsk) entitled *Modern Approaches for Controlling Drug Misuse: Social, Legal and Epidemiological Aspect*, were organized by UNODC in collaboration with WHO (Russia), the FDCS and the Institute for Systematic Research of Drug Problems, Moscow. The UNODC's objective was to use the seminars as a platform to advocate for the introduction of medication assisted treatment (MAT) - more widely known as opiate substitution therapy. Professor John Strang, Director of the National Addiction Centre, London, and his colleague Dr Michael Kelleher delivered the presentations describing the relevance and effectiveness of MAT. Their presentations generated a good deal of discussion and the feedback was positive. Based on the evaluation forms, the majority of participants felt that their knowledge on the topic of MAT had increased. In total, 155 Federal Drug Control Service staff members trained on the role of medication assisted drug treatment programs (see the Table 1).

**Activity 1.2.1.** In addition at request of the Director of the National Research Centre on Addictions RORB supported participation of five Chief Narcologists from the main Federal districts such as South Federal district, Privolzhsky Federal district, Far East Federal district, Ural and Central Federal districts in an International conference *“Effective and Proven Treatment for Drug Addiction in the HIV era”* (18-19 February, 2008, Moscow). RORB also supported the participation of five substance dependence professionals and researchers from both project sites (2 people from St. Petersburg and 3 - from Orenburg). The conference raised awareness of participants on medication assisted treatment of substance dependence through open scientific discussion. Discussions targeted also issues of compulsory treatment of drug addicts and development of strategies to improve of substance dependence treatment. 10 leading narcological organizations were provided with technical assistance for HIV-related policy development.

**Activity 1.3** Develop training programs for FDCS and FSIN on their role in HIV/AIDS prevention among IDUs and other high-risk groups.

The training seminar on *“Issues of HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination: medical, social, and legal aspects”* for personnel of penitentiary institutions was conducted in Orenburg on 18 February 2008. 25 prison professionals were trained by NGO “Grazdanskay Volya”. In March 2008 (7 March, 14 March 2008) two similar training events aimed at *reducing stigma and discrimination* of HIV-positive inmates and advocating their rights were conducted by NGO “Imena+” in St. Petersburg. 40 people participated in the training seminars. In total, 65 prison professionals trained on HIV-related stigma and discrimination issues (see the Table 1).

**Activity 1.4.1** Conduct two master classes for substance dependence treatment, health, HIV, and social welfare professionals on different models of drug free rehabilitation (residential and outpatient).

Two master-classes on *“Improvement of Integrated Care to HIV-positive IDUs within the System of Substance Dependence Rehabilitation aimed at Increasing their Access to ART: Therapeutic Community Approach”* were carried out by UNODC RORB jointly with the National Research Centre on Addictions (NRCA) in Orenburg (18-19 June 2009) and in St. Petersburg (23-24 June 2009). The aim of educational events was to provide an overview of modern substance dependence rehabilitation approaches, therapeutic communities work, monitoring and evaluation of rehabilitation programs.

Two honorable experts were recruited on the competitive basis to conduct the master-classes: Mr. George De Leon, PhD, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, New York University School of Medicine, Senior Scientist, and the Centre for Therapeutic Community Research (CTCR), USA and Dr. T.N. Dudko, Doctor of Medical Science, Professor, Head of Rehabilitation Unit, National Research Centre on Addictions (NRCA), Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development (MoHSD).



In Orenburg 33 professionals from 10 substance dependence rehabilitation centres from 6 regions of the Russian Federation actively participated in the event.

The master-class in St. Petersburg (23-24 June 2009) was supported by the Health Department, Administration of the City of St. Petersburg and St. Petersburg Bekhterev Research Psycho-Neurological Institute. On 23 June 2009 Mr. Gerra, Chief, UNODC HQ Health and Human Development Section, Vienna opened St. Petersburg’s master-class with presentation on UNODC drug demand reduction policy focusing on health perspectives.

In St. Petersburg 30 professionals (substance dependence professionals, heads of rehabilitation centres/departments, psychologists, social workers) from 4 regions of the Russian Federation actively participated in the event. 15 substance dependence rehabilitation centers were represented at the master-class.

In total, 63 professionals were trained in HIV-related institutional capacity building during the master-classes in both regions (see the Table 1).

**Activity 1.4.2** Conduct two study visits on rehabilitation models for substance abuse, health, HIV and social welfare professionals.

On 17-19 May, 2010 UNODC organized the study visit of Russian professionals “*Models of Substance Dependence Treatment and Rehabilitation for Injecting Drug Users including Issues of HIV-prevention and Care: Austrian Experience*” to Vienna, Austria. The study tour was organized for substance abuse professionals from the Russian National Research Centre on Addictions (NRCA), HIV professionals from Federal AIDS Centre, State Duma, Federal Drug Control Service representatives and specialists working in substance dependence rehabilitation field. 9 people participated in the mission. The visit provided an overview of substance dependence treatment services for IDUs in Vienna with focus on maintenance treatment and integrated care for HIV-positive drug addicts within the system of treatment of substance dependence (see the table 1).

On 27 November – 3 December 2010 UNODC organized the study visit “*Treatment and Rehabilitation Models for IDUs including Integrated Care for PLWHIV and Social Support for PLWHIV and for IDUs*” to New York and Washington, DC (USA). The group included four leading national scientists from Russian National Research Center on Addictions. The visit helped to familiarize key national partners with substance dependence treatment/rehabilitation and HIV prevention models for IDUs in USA including integrated care and social support models for IDUs and HIV-positive IDUs.

**Activity 1.4.3** Conduct two master-classes for substance abuse, health, HIV, and social welfare professionals on recovery-oriented care for HIV-positive substance users (2010).

Two master-classes “*Innovative methods of complex narcological support of injecting drug users with HIV-infection*” for substance abuse professionals and other specialists working in substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation fields were conducted on 09-10 November, 11-12 November 2010 in Moscow. The purpose of the master-classes was to familiarize participants with the methods of narcological support for injecting drug users with HIV-infection; provide examples of narcological support for injecting drug users with HIV-infection in Russian regions and in USA; provide information about HIV/AIDS epidemiology, and discuss support to IDU patients with HIV/TB and co-infections. 29 professionals participated in the first master-class (09-10 November 2010); 21 professionals were trained during the second master-class (11-12 November 2010). In total, 50 professionals from 28 regions of the Russian Federation were trained at both training events (see the table 1).

**Activity 1.4.4** Organize a National workshop on identification of best practices and the necessary steps for the follow-up actions.

On 25 November 2009 UNODC CORUS organized jointly with Russian partners the round table on *Problems of Rehabilitation of Substance users* at the 1st Russian National Congress of Substance dependence Professionals, which took place in Moscow (24-27 November 2009). The aim of the panel was to discuss evidence-based approaches in substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation, provision of psychosocial care for drug addicts, and sharing of experience and the best practices.

UNODC CORUS supported participation of two international experts and one national expert who presented results of "Evaluation of Effectiveness of Rehabilitation of Substance users using Addiction Severity Index Tool". 59 specialists (49 – from state institutions and 10 – from NGO sector) took part in UNODC panel on *Problems of Rehabilitation of Substance Users* including 7 Heads of Departments at narcological dispensaries, 6 Chief Doctors, 2 Directors of Rehabilitation Centers, 3 Deputy Senior Doctors, 4 psychologists, 5 substance dependence professionals, 1 scientist from Serbsky Institute of Social and Forensic Psychiatry, etc.

**Activity 1.5** Provide small grants to local partners to implement and /or access the application of international best practices.

With support of UNODC grant the national consultant and NGO “Bureau on Substance Dependence Problems” (Orenburg) developed and piloted the questionnaire on assessment of HIV-related risks among IDUs. 80 drug addicts were interviewed with the questionnaire. An interview was followed by risk-reduction counseling and motivational interview; this helped to develop recommendations on risk reduction among IDUs. On 14 January 2011 the results of the pilot testing and the developed *questionnaire* on assessment of HIV-related risks among IDUs and *recommendations* on risk reduction among IDUs were presented at the regional meeting in Orenburg. Four organizations benefitted from this activity: National Research Centre on Addictions (Moscow), Orenburg Regional Narcological Dispensary (inpatient, out-patient, and rehabilitation departments), Orenburg State Medical Academy, and NGO “Bureau on Substance dependence Problems”.



**Table 1: List of training events under Output 1**

Name of USG Implementing Partner(s)	Title of Training	Training Location (city)	Training Start Date	Training End Date	Training Duration (hours)	Number Trained
UNODC RORB, the FDSC, and the Institute for Systematic Research of Drug Problems, Moscow	Modern Approaches for Controlling Drug Misuse: Social, Legal and Epidemiological Aspects	Volgograd	20 September 2006	21 September 2006	11	51
UNODC RORB, the FDSC, and the Institute for Systematic Research of Drug Problems, Moscow	Modern Approaches for Controlling Drug Misuse: Social, Legal and Epidemiological Aspects	Kurgan	12 October 2006	13 October 2006	11	47
UNODC RORB, the FDSC, and the Institute for Systematic Research of Drug Problems, Moscow	Modern Approaches for Controlling Drug Misuse: Social, Legal and Epidemiological Aspects	Irkutsk	18 October 2006	19 October 2006	11	57
UNODC RORB, Federal Drug Control Service	Study tour for Federal Drug Control Service specialists	London, UK	3 December 2006	10 December 2006	14 h 15 m	7
UNODC RORB	HIV and Drug Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Care in the UK	London, UK	17 December 2007	21 December 2007	22	4
UNODC RORB	Effective and Proven Treatment for Drug Addiction in the HIV era	Moscow	18 February 2008	19 February 2008	15	10
NGO "Grazdanskaya Volya"	Issues of HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination: medical, social, and legal aspects	Orenburg	18 February 2008	18 February 2008	5,5 h	25
NGO "Imena +"	Issues of stigma and discrimination in HIV/AIDS field: medical, social and legal aspects	Komarov, Leningrad Oblast	7 March 2008	7 March 2008	5,5 h	20
NGO "Imena +"	Issues of stigma and discrimination in HIV/AIDS field: medical, social and legal aspects	Komarov, Leningrad Oblast	14 March 2008	14 March 2008	5,5 h	20
UNODC RORB jointly with the Russian National Scientific Centre on Addictions (NSCA)	The master-class "Improvement of Integrated Care to HIV-positive IDUs within the System of Drug Abuse Rehabilitation aimed at Increasing their Access to ART: Therapeutic Community Approach"	Orenburg	18 June 2009	19 June 2009	15 h 15 m	33
UNODC RORB jointly with the Russian National Research Centre on Addictions (NRCA) and St. Petersburg Research Psycho-Neurologic Bekhterev Institute	The master-class "Improvement of Integrated Care to HIV-positive IDUs within the System of Drug Abuse Rehabilitation aimed at Increasing their Access to ART: Therapeutic Community Approach"	St. Petersburg	23 June 2009	24 June 2009	14 h 15 m	30

UNODC RORB jointly with the Russian National Scientific Centre on Addictions (NSCA)	The round table on <i>Problems of Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers</i> at the 1 <sup>st</sup> Russian National Congress of Drug Abuse Professionals	Moscow	25 November 2009	25 November 2009	3h	59
UNODC PORUS	Study tour Models of Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation for Injecting Drug Users including Issues of HIV-prevention and Care: Austrian Experience	Vienna, Austria	17 May 2010	21 May 2010	14 h 15 m	9
UNODC PORUS jointly with National Research Center on Addictions	Master-class on Innovative Methods of Provision of Integrated Narcological Assistance to HIV-Positive Injecting Drug Users	Moscow	9 November 2010	10 November 2010	5 h 30 m	29 (20 females, 9 males)
UNODC PORUS jointly with National Research Center on Addictions	Master-class on Innovative Methods of Provision of Integrated Narcological Assistance to HIV-Positive Injecting Drug Users	Moscow	11 November 2010	12 November 2010	5 h 30 m	21 (13 females, 8 males)
UNODC PORUS jointly with National Research Center on Addictions	Study Tour on Treatment and Rehabilitation Models for IDUs, Including Integrated Care for PLWHIV and Social Support for PLWHIV and for IDUs	Washington, New York, USA	27 November 2010	4 December 2010	31 h	4 (2 females, 2 males)

**Outcome 2:** Relevant prison and medical personnel deliver more effective substance dependence treatment, rehabilitation and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services for IDUs and PLWHA in the places of detention.

**Output 2:** Increased capacity to deliver effective HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care including substance dependence treatment for IDUs and PLWHA in the places of detention.

**Achievements on indicators/targets:**

*Planned targets:*

- At least 60 prison medical personnel trained on HIV/AIDS issues and service delivery for IDUs and prisoners;
- At least 60 health care workers trained on HIV/AIDS issues and service delivery for IDUs and ex-prisoners;
- 20 outreach workers trained in HIV-related issues for former inmates;
- 2,000 prisoners including HIV-positive and IDUs reached by prevention and care programs;
- Recommendations on the organizational models of pre- and post-release services for HIV-positive former inmates are developed for dissemination.

*Achieved results:*

- (2007-2008) *Achieved.* 145 prison medical professionals, psychologists, social workers, security guards, and mentors from prison sector were trained. Seven training events on HIV/AIDS issues and service delivery for IDUs and prisoners were conducted including one training on improvement of adherence to ARVT among HIV-positive inmates. 62 persons were trained in 2007; 83 professionals were trained in 2008.
- (2007-2008) *Achieved.* 90 health care workers trained on HIV/AIDS issues and service delivery for IDUs and ex-prisoners; 53 professionals were trained in 2007, and 37 – in 2008. 6 training events were conducted.
- (2007) *Achieved.* 27 outreach and social workers (11 from Orenburg and 16 from St.Petersburg) were trained on issues of social and medical support for former prisoners in the field of HIV and IDU prevention and treatment. 2 training events were conducted.
- (2007-2009) *Achieved.* 4,307 of detainees including HIV-positive IDUs and PLWHIV covered by drug use and HIV/AIDS prevention and behaviors change programs.
- (2010) *Achieved.* Two manuals with recommendations on organizational models of pre- and post release services for HIV-positive former inmates were developed and published (edition - 300 copies each);
- (2010) the National consultations (in the format of conference) with representatives of Russian Federal Penitentiary Service from 10 regions of the Russian Federation on policy review and programming on HIV prevention among IDUs in prison sector and after release were conducted;
- 51 professionals were informed about the models developed under the project.

**Activity 2.1** Training of FSIN medical personal on effective HIV/AIDS and drug treatment and rehabilitation services.

In order to increase capacity in delivering of effective HIV prevention and care interventions for IDUs and PLWHA at the correctional institutions the training seminar *"HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse Prevention among Inmates"* took place on 19-22 February 2008 in Orenburg. 25 people were trained (20 psychologists, social workers, security guards, and mentors from FSIN system and 5 professionals from the organizations providing post-release services). The training event was organized by NGO "Grazdanskay Volya". In order to increase awareness of personnel of penitentiary institutions about the post-release services to former detainees NGO "Imena+" conducted two training seminars *"Coordination between the Correctional Institutions and Civil Organizations Providing Medical and Social Services to HIV-positive Former Inmates"* in March 2008 in Komarovo, St. Petersburg (3- 6 March; 10-13 March). Altogether 40 specialists from penitentiary institutions (psychologists, social workers, security guards, and mentors) were trained (see the Table 2).



On 24-26 March 2008 NGO “New Life” conducted a 3-day training seminar on *“Improvement of Adherence to Antiretroviral Treatment (ARVT) among HIV-positive Inmates”* for medical and non-medical personnel of correctional institutions from Orenburg region. The team of trainers included professionals from Kazan and Moscow as well as the local specialist on high risk groups. The training aimed at increasing awareness and knowledge of FSIN medical personnel how to motivate HIV-positive inmates and improve their adherence to ARV treatment. 18 professionals from the penal system were trained. The Head of Medical Service, Federal Penitentiary Service in Orenburg region acknowledged FSIN’s satisfaction with quality of the conducted training seminar (see the Table 2).

**Activity 2.2** Organize training of prevention/outreach workers on HIV and IDU prevention and treatment issues.

NGO “Humanitarian Action” conducted 2 training events for prevention/ outreach workers on social and medical support for former prisoners in the field of HIV and IDU prevention and treatment (27-31 August, Orenburg; 24-28 September, St. Petersburg). 27 outreach and social workers (11 from Orenburg and 16 from St. Petersburg) were trained on issues of social and medical support for former prisoners in the field of HIV and IDU prevention (see the Table 2).

On 21-25 July 2008 5 representatives (3 social workers, 1 outreach worker, and 1 FSIN representative) of Orenburg NGOs team visited partner organizations in St. Petersburg (NGOs and Narcological Rehabilitation Centre involved in provision of pre- and post-release services). This visit was organized by NGO ‘Drug Abuse Prevention Centre’, St. Petersburg. The participants familiarized themselves with the peculiarities of pre- and post- release support services established in St. Petersburg and participated in on-job training.

**Activity 2.3** Training of the health care professionals (from the general health care system) on effective HIV/AIDS and drug treatment and rehabilitation

The training course on “Organization of the system of psycho-social pre-release and post-release services for IDUs and HIV-infected clients” was conducted by Altay AIDS Center in Barnaul on 28-30 May 2007. 12 managers and public health administrators (6 from each region) took part in the training course. This helped to strengthen capacity of 12 government organizations and NGOs in provisions of HIV/AIDS case management services for vulnerable groups in St. Petersburg and Orenburg regions.

On 23-27 July 2007 NGO “Bureau on Drug Abuse Problems” conducted 5-days training course for healthcare professionals and social workers of service organizations involved in post-release support programs. The course was designed to increase institutional capacity of network organizations in provision of effective treatment and rehabilitation for HIV/AIDS and drug dependency. 22 people (drug treatment practitioners, psychologists, and social workers) participated in the training event. The training course «The Role of Cognitive Behavioral Interventions and Motivational Interview for IDUs and HIV-positive Clients in pre- and Post- release Practices” was conducted by NGO “Drug Abuse Prevention Centre” on 25-29 October in St. Petersburg. 19 psychologists and social workers were trained.

During the reporting period the training seminar on “Gender specific treatment for IDUs and Introduction of System Changes for Improvement of Addiction Treatment and Outcomes for both the Clients and Service Providers (NIATx)” took place in Orenburg on 12-14 August 2008. 3-day workshop was dedicated to peculiarities of inpatient and outpatient gender specific treatment for IDUs including HIV positive. Participants were also introduced to the concepts of a women’s addiction in relation to her family and to recovery. The training event was carried out by international expert from Stainly Street Treatment and Resources (SSTAR), USA, which is one of the UNODC Treatnet Centres. 11 people from organizations providing pre- and post- release services (substance abuse professionals, psychologists, social workers, etc.) were trained (see the Table 2).



**Activity 2.4** Information, education and communication (IEC) activities in selected prisons.

NGO 'Drug Abuse Prevention Centre' and NGO 'Imena +' provided HIV/AIDS prevention services in four correctional institutions in St. Petersburg: IK N2 (female), IK N3, N5, and N7 (male). NGO "Grazdanskaya Volya", Orenburg provided prevention services in three correctional institutions in Orenburg: IK N1, 4, 8 (male). Since May 2008 NGO "Bureau on Drug Problems", Orenburg has started to provide prevention services in male correctional institution N3 in Novotroitsk (IKN3, Orenburg Oblast). The target group was prison inmates including HIV-positive IDUs, IDUs, and PLWHIV. The services included group sessions on drug use and HIV/AIDS prevention and behavior change, individual counseling on HIV/AIDS and drug abuse prevention and treatment, and palliative care services to HIV positive inmates.

During 2007-2009 4,307 of new detainees including HIV-positive IDUs and PLWHIV were covered by drug use and HIV/AIDS prevention and behaviors change programs at both sites (1,396 inmates in St. Petersburg; 2,911 – in Orenburg). Detainees participated in groups sessions on HIV/AIDS prevention and behavior change; participated in information and educational events (lectures, training events), received individual counseling sessions on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment; received peer counseling on HIV issues. IEC materials were distributed in prisons (in both regions) (see Annex II. UNODC APPR 2006-2009).

The experts of NGO «IMENA+» (St. Petersburg) supported inmates peer education groups in the correctional colonies IK5 and IK7 and helped them to develop peer education programs. The experts provided also psychosocial services to inmates receiving antiretroviral therapy (counseling, legal assistance, and information support). The Patient's School for HIV-positive inmates was established, and it continues to function in the penal colony IK7 (8-12 patients attend the school every week). In the correctional colonies IK5 and IK7 NGO «IMENA+» supported establishment of PLWHIV self-help groups, where 99% of participants are IDUs. The groups meet once a week and included up to 15-20 people.

**Activity 2.6** Describe results and tools (algorithms, plans, referral mechanisms, and recording forms) in the organizational models of pre and post-release services for HIV-positive former inmates.

In April 2009 the partner networks started development of the organizational models of pre- and post-release services for HIV-positive former inmates based on the project experience in St. Petersburg and Orenburg Oblast. Both teams analyzed the data of *Clients Satisfaction Survey* and data on the outcome related indicators for evaluation of effectiveness of pre- and post-release services. In December 2009 the drafts of the organizational models of pre- and post-release services for HIV-positive former inmates developed under the project in St. Petersburg and Orenburg Oblast were submitted to UNODC CORUS Project Coordinator for consideration before publication.

**Activity 2.7** Develop, print, and disseminate information materials on the models of multi-sectoral pre- and post-release services.

Two manuals with description of the organizational models of pre- and post-release services for HIV-positive former inmates were developed, printed, and disseminated:

- 1) The manual "*Partnership Model of Pre- and Post-release Services for HIV-positive Former Inmates: Practical Experience of Orenburg and Orenburg region*" (300 copies). The book was presented and disseminated at the joint UNODC and Federal Penal System International Conference on 22 April 2010. The book includes description of the organizational model of pre and post-release services for HIV-positive former inmates: results, tools, algorithms, referral mechanisms, and examples of recording forms.
- 2) The manual on "*Organization of the Model of Medical and Social Support Services for HIV-positive Former Inmates IDUs: Practical Experience of Primorsky district, St. Petersburg*" (300 copies). This manual is recommended for publication by the Department of Sociology, St. Petersburg State University and published under auspices of Administration of Primorsky District, the City of St. Petersburg.

**Activity 2.8** Support to organization of the National conference devoted to dissemination of the models of pre- and post-release services.

UNODC supported national consultations (in the format of National conference) with representatives of Russian Federal Penitentiary System from 10 regions of the Russian Federation on policy review and HIV prevention programming for IDUs in prison sector and after release (22 April, 2010, Moscow). UNODC jointly with the Federal Penal System of the Russian Federation organized an International Research and Practice Conference “*Reforming Penitentiary System. Issues of Medico-Social Adaptation of Prisoners and Those who are Released from the Prisons*” in Moscow<sup>1</sup>. The conference aimed to discuss the experience of models of medical and social support services for people who inject drugs and HIV-positive people released from prisons. An abstract *Partnership model on provision of medical and social services for HIV-positive IDUs inmates and those who are released from penitentiary institutions (on example of Orenburg region)* was published in the Abstract Book of the joint UNODC and Federal Penal System International Conference.

51 professionals were informed about the models developed under the project. 45% of participants (23 persons) were female. 21 participants were specialists from Federal Penitentiary Institutions of 10 regions of the Russian Federation such as Saint-Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast, Perm Kray, Ryazan, Orel, Voronezh, Irkutsk, Orenburg, Chelyabinsk Oblasts, Tomsk Kray, and the Republic of Tatarstan. This number included 9 Heads of Departments of Medical Services from regional penitentiary institutions. There were representatives of the Research Institute of Federal Penal System of the Russian Federation (Moscow) and the Penitentiary Research Institute (Tomsk).



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Table 2: List of training events under Output 2

Name of USG Implementing Partner(s)	Title of Training	Training Location (city)	Training Start Date	Training End Date	Training Duration (hours)	Number Trained
NGO "Grazdanskaya Volya"	HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse Prevention among Inmates	Orenburg	19 February 2008	22 February 2008	22	25
NGO "Imena +"	Provision of services to HIV-positive inmates and former inmates	Komarov, Leningrad Oblast	3 March 2008	6 March 2008	22	20
NGO "Imena +"	Provision of services to HIV-positive inmates and former inmates	Komarov, Leningrad Oblast	10 March 2008	13 March 2008	22	20
NGO "New Life"	Improvement of adherence to ARVT among HIV-positive inmates	Orenburg	24 March 2008	26 March 2008	19	18
NGO "Drug Abuse Prevention Centre"	Partners' planning working meeting	St. Petersburg	10 April 2008	10 April 2008	4,5	10
NGO "Drug Abuse Prevention Centre"	Improvement of access to treatment and care for former prisoners including HIV-positive IDUs through promotion of better coordination and collaboration between government and NGO service providers	St. Petersburg	17 April 2008	17 April 2008	4,5	16
UNODC CORUS jointly with Federal Scientific Research Institute of Federal Penitentiary Service	International Research and Practice Conference "Reforming penitentiary system. Issues of medico-social adaptation of prisoners and those who are released from the prisons"	Moscow	22 April 2010	22 April 2010	7	51
Altai Krai AIDS Centre to prevent HIV and fight infectious diseases	Management of social support and HIV/AIDS and drug abuse prevention of people recently released from prisons	The city of Barnaul, Altai Krai	28 May 2007	30 May 2007	23,5	12
NGO "Imena +"	Medical and psycho-social aspects of HIV infection in penitentiary institutions	Komarov, Leningrad region	18 June 2007	22 June 2007	28	20
NGO "Grazdanskaya Volya"	HIV and drug abuse prevention among prisoners for specialists of penitentiary institutions	Orenburg	9 July 2007	11 July 2007	16,5	22
NGO "Bureau on Drug Abuse Problems"	Improvement of institutional capacity of network organisations in HIV prevention and drug abuse treatment&rehabilitation for ex-prisoners	Orenburg	23 July 2007	27 July 2007	30	22

ANO "Bureau on Drug Problems"	Gender specific treatment for IDUs and Introduction of System Changes for Improvement of Addiction Treatment and Outcomes for both the Clients and Service Providers (NLATx)	Orenburg	12 August 2008	14 August 2008	18,5	11
NGO "Humanitarian Action"	HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse Prevention among people recently released from prisons within wider framework of support system to risk groups	St. Petersburg	27 August 2007	31 August 2007	30	11
NGO "Humanitarian Action	HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse Prevention among people recently released from prisons within	St. Petersburg	27 August 2007	31 August 2007	30	16
NGO "Imena+"	Medical and psycho-social aspects of HIV infection in penitentiary institutions	Komarov, Leningrad region	3 September 2007	7 September 2007	28	20
NGO "Drug Abuse Prevention Centre"	The Role of Cognitive Behavioural Interventions and Motivational Interview for IDUs and HIV- positive Clients in pre- and post- release practices"	St. Petersburg	25 October 2007	29 October 2007	21	19



**Outcome 3:** Operational multi-sectoral pre- and post-release services in St. Petersburg, Orenburg for HIV positive detainees and IDUs are established and actively providing care.

**Output 3:** Multi-sectoral pre-release and post-release HIV/AIDS prevention and care services provided for detainees in St. Petersburg and Orenburg Oblast.

**Achievements on indicators/targets:**

*Planned targets:*

- At least two comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and care programs for former inmates are implemented in 2 regions of the Russian Federation;
- Coordination mechanisms in place for provision of pre- and post-release service for former detainees in both sites;
- Two networks of partners' organizations provide pre- and post- release services in both regions (at least 12 organizations);
- Coverage of HIV/AIDS prevention and care services for former prisoners is increased

*Achieved results.*

- (2008-2009) By the end of 2009 two networks of pre- and post-release service providers operate at both pilot sites. Orenburg's network is comprised of 5 state organizations and 6 NGOs and serves four penitentiary institutions in Orenburg and in Novotroitsk, Orenburg Oblast. Coordination mechanism is based on an Agreement signed by 11 organizations.
- St. Petersburg's network consists of 8 organizations and serves 4 penitentiary institutions. Coordination mechanism is based on 7 bilateral agreements signed by St. Petersburg's partners.
- (2010). A *quadrupartite Agreement* to support provision of post release services for female IDU former detainees is signed by the City Committee on Social Policy, the City Crisis Centre for Women, Federal Penal System in St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast, and NGO "Doctors for Children".
- (2007-2010) 50% increase in the number of comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and care programs for former inmates in St. Petersburg and Orenburg.

In May 2007 needs assessment on gaps in service provision for former prisoners including PLWHIV and IDUs in both regions were completed. The results of the needs assessment were discussed at the Programme Planning Meetings in both regions (14 May - St. Petersburg; 17 May - Orenburg). As a result of these meetings a detailed programme activity work plan and related budget was prepared in consultation with regional partners.

In order to increase the access to effective HIV/AIDS and substance treatment and rehabilitation services for those released from penitentiary institutions, the project models employed an individual post-release case-management approach linking individuals to a wide range of available services: medical care, HIV testing and counselling, ART treatment adherence counselling, substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation, psychological and legal support, employment counselling, and peer support.

UNODC provided grants to five NGOs in both regions to support HIV-prevention and care services for inmates and former prisoners. 151 professionals received in-service training on provision of pre- and post-release services in both regions (11 Orenburg +37 St. Petersburg (2009); 105 St. Petersburg in 2010) (see the Table 3). The number of consultations and other services (in both regions) delivered by the post-release service units and the partner organizations to former inmates increased from 570 - in 2007 to 5,017 (3,595 up to 2009 and 1,422 in 2010-2011) in 2011.

As the result of service delivery activities the outcome indicator has been reached – 1,000 former prisoners including IDUs and HIV-positive received HIV/AIDS prevention and case-management services in partner organizations at both sites.

Orenburg's network encompasses 5 state entities and 6 NGOs serving four penitentiary institutions in Orenburg and Novotroitsk, Orenburg Oblast. The coordination mechanism is based on an Agreement signed by 11 organizations.

Two comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and care programs for former inmates were established in St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg's network consists of 8 organizations and serves 4 penitentiary institutions. The coordination mechanism is based on 7 bilateral agreements signed by St. Petersburg's partners.

A *quadrupartite Agreement* to support provision of post-release services for female IDU former detainees was signed by the City Committee on Social Policy, the City Crisis Centre for Women, Federal Penal System of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast, and NGO "Doctors for Children". As a result the City program of socio-medical services to HIV-positive female IDUs, who are former detainees, was established in St. Petersburg.

Three comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and care programs for former inmates were implemented in St. Petersburg and Orenburg (outcome), which demonstrate 50% increase of this indicator compare to the planned.

At the end of 2010, some 22 organizations became the members of the partner networks that provide pre- and post- release services in both regions (outcome); this demonstrates 83,3 % increase in the number of partners' organizations providing pre- and post- release services in both regions.

The project achievement as per the Logical Framework indicators included introduction of the package HIV/AIDS prevention and substance use treatment interventions for ex-prisoners in 2 regions of the Russian Federation, namely St. Petersburg and Orenburg. Both regions incorporated the Programs on comprehensive HIV/AIDS pre- and post-release services for ex-prisoners into municipal Action Plans and Financial Frameworks.

The *Integrated Inter-Departmental Program of Primorsky District on Medical and Social Support of Drug Abusers and HIV-positive Clients Released from Prisons* was approved by the Head of Administration of Primorsky district and funded under the municipal 2010 Action Plan and Financial Framework (effective from 26 February 2010). The section concerning provision of pre- and post-release services was included in to the three-year Activity Plan of Orenburg City Municipal Program aimed at Drug Abuse and HIV Prevention for 2010-2012.

Institutionalization of St. Petersburg and Orenburg models has become an excellent example of the project success, demonstrating emerging ownership and commitment of the local governments to deal with the sensitive issues of HIV/AIDS and substance dependence including those in penitentiary sector, and their interest to sustain the gains of the project.

The Outcome has been reached based upon project indicators and demonstrated success in institutionalization of the above service models.



**Table 3: List of training events under Output 3**

Name of USG Implementing Partner(s)	Title of Training	Training Location (city)	Training Start Date	Training End Date	Training Duration (hours)	Number Trained
ANO "Bureau on Drug Abuse Problems"	The Learning Session/ Collaborative for partner organizations providing pre- and post-release services.	Orenburg	28 January 2009	28 January 2009	5 h	11
NGO DAPC	The meeting on provision of services to former detainees in Primorsky District, St. Petersburg.	St. Petersburg	02 June 2009	02 June 2009	3 h 15 m	37
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Seminar on Organization of medico-social support of women released from prison, including HIV-infected women, experienced PAS	St. Petersburg	24 May 2010	25 May 2010	12 h 20 m	25 (25 females)
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Seminar on Organization of medico-social support of women released from prison, including HIV-infected women, experienced PAS	St. Petersburg	26 May 2010	27 May 2010	12 h 20 m	24 (23 females, 2 males)
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Seminar on Psychological Support of Women released from prison having children. Peculiarities of relationship between parents and children. Dependence and Co-dependence. The role of social services in drug addiction treatment and breakdowns prevention	St. Petersburg	12 July 2010	13 July 2010	11 h	26 (23 females, 3 males)
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Seminar at the Correctional Colony #2, Federal Penitentiary Service Department of Saint-Petersburg and Leningrad oblast on prevention work with women ready to release	Ulianovsk village	18 December 2010	18 December 2010	4 h 30 m	18 (17 females, 1 male)
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Seminar on consultation basics of people experienced using psychoactive substances	Ulianovsk village	29 December 2010	29 December 2010	4 h 30 m	12 (12 females)

**Outcome 4:** Relevant professionals apply appropriate indicators, methods and tools for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of comprehensive HIV/AIDS services including substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation interventions.

**Output 4:** Strengthened system for monitoring and evaluation of HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care including substance dependence treatment interventions.

**Achievements on indicators/targets:**

*Planned targets:*

- 20 professionals from local organizations trained on monitoring and evaluation of pre- and post-release HIV/AIDS related services;
- At least 12 local organizations provided with technical assistance on monitoring and evaluation for HIV/AIDS treatment and care interventions;
- Surveys on outcomes measurement of treatment and rehabilitation of substance users including HIV-positive IDUs conducted at both sites;
- At least 50 substance abuse professionals, psychologists, and social workers trained in use of the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) as a screening and assessment tool for HIV and substance abuse interventions;
- At least 30 governmental and NGOs professionals trained on internationally-recognized approaches to assess and monitor treatment and rehabilitation outcomes among IDUs;
- Publication on practical application of ASI and on outcomes measurement of treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers is available.

*Achieved results:*

- (2007/2008) *Achieved.* 22 professionals trained on monitoring and evaluation of the pre- and post-release programs including the data collection instruments, methodology, and data interpretation. Four training events were conducted.
- (2007/2008) *Achieved.* 17 organizations were provided with technical assistance on monitoring and evaluation of pre- and post-release programs. New data collection forms were developed and implemented at both sites.
- (2009) *Achieved.* Surveys at both sites were conducted and the results disseminated in St.Petersburg and Orenburg.
- (2008-2009) *Achieved.* 300 copies of the Guidelines on practical application of the Russian version of Addiction Severity Index (ASI) was developed, published, and disseminated in both regions.
- (2010) *Achieved.* 58 professionals were trained on practical application of the Addiction Severity Index (ASI).
- (2010) *Achieved.* 63 state and NGOs professionals trained on internationally-recognized approaches to monitor treatment outcomes among IDUs.

**Activity 4.1** Organize 2 training events on monitoring and evaluation of pre- and post-release programs in both regions

Development of monitoring and evaluation system of pre- and post-release services was initiated in both sites. 2 training events on monitoring and evaluation of the pre- and post-release programs, including the data collection instruments, methodology and data interpretation were conducted in both sites by MedAlliance Ltd (10-11 September, Orenburg, 13-14 September 2007, St. Petersburg).

22 managers of networks' organizations were trained at these events and 17 organizations were provided with technical assistance on monitoring and evaluation of pre- and post-release programs and collection of strategic information data in this field. New data collection forms were developed and introduced for implementation in both regions by the end of 2007.

On 15 April 2008 the training event on monitoring and evaluation of pre- and post- release medical and social services in Orenburg was carried out by MedAlliance. During the seminar a review of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) data collection forms and indicators was provided; the project



evaluation strategy and time frame for collection of the outcome indicators were agreed. The participants discussed the structure and content of the questionnaire on clients' satisfaction survey to be carried out. 8 professionals were trained. A similar M&E training seminar was conducted on 23 April 2008 in St. Petersburg. 10 professionals were trained.

**Activity 4.2** Conducting targeted evaluation of pilot projects.

In March 2009 both project teams (in Orenburg and in St. Petersburg) completed the collection of the forms of Clients Satisfaction Survey and data on the outcome related indicators for evaluation of effectiveness of pre- and post- release services. In June 2009 an Evaluation report and the comparative results of the Clients Satisfaction Survey in both regions prepared by OOO "Medalliance" was submitted to UNODC CORUS and sent to the local partners as the main resource for the models' development.

**Activity 4.3.1** Conduct training workshop for professionals including NGOs in the use of ASI as a screening and assessment tool for HIV and substance abuse interventions in St. Petersburg.

On 23-25 April 2008 a training workshop on practical application of the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) in substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation was carried out in Orenburg. 15 substance dependence professionals (doctors, psychologists, and social workers) were trained. Training was carried out by the national consultant trained on ASI at Yale University, USA. The trainees were provided with information on ASI's structure and reasons to use it in rehabilitation programs. The professionals exercise skills on ASI practical application, skills to use ASI in patient's follow-up, and work with ASI data.

The second follow-up training seminar for trained practitioners was conducted on 23-25 June 2008 in Orenburg. The objectives of the session were to enhance practitioners' skills and knowledge of ASI application in various treatment environments and to present the Treatnet (UNODC HQ) version of the ASI (a standard/unified tool). Training was carried out by the International consultant specialized on Treatnet ASI version. 11 professionals were trained.

On 18-19, 22 September 2008 a training workshop on practical application of the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) in substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation was carried out by OO "Rusmedica" in St. Petersburg. 12 substance dependence professionals (doctors and psychologists) were trained. These seminars helped to increased capacity of 12 organizations (6 – in St. Petersburg, 6 – in Orenburg) to use the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) for measurement of effectiveness of treatment and rehabilitation outcomes of substance users including HIV positive IDUs in both sites.

On 27-29 January 2010 UNODC PORUS organized training seminar on *Practical Application of "Addiction Severity Index (ASI)"* for substance dependence treatment professionals in St. Petersburg. 20 professionals who represented 8 regions of the Russian Federation (Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Kazan (the Republic of Tatarstan), Irkutsk, Tver, Novosibirsk, Orenburg, and Vladivostok) were trained. 60% (12 persons) of trainees were female. The participants were substance abuse professionals, consultants-psychologists, social workers, chiefs of rehabilitation programs, peer consultants from HIV prevention programs. The seminar aimed at introduction of the ASI as a screening and assessment tool for HIV and substance abuse interventions and responded to existing gaps in Russian evaluation practices in substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation fields.

*The Guidelines on practical application of the Russian version of Addiction Severity Index (ASI): Treatnet version* was prepared for publication within the period August – November 2009. It was published (edition: 200 copies) and used during the training workshops.

**Activity 4.3.2** Conduct master-class on evidence-based internationally-recognized approaches to assess and monitor treatment and rehabilitation outcomes among IDUs in St. Petersburg (2010).

In order to increase capacity in delivery of effective substance dependence and HIV prevention interventions for IDUs and PLWHA the master-class entitled *"Evidence-based Monitoring Approaches to*



*Assess Effectiveness of Drug Treatment, Rehabilitation and HIV Prevention*" was conducted on 14-15 April 2010 in St. Petersburg. 63 professionals who represented 12 regions of the Russian Federation (Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Kazan (the Republic of Tatarstan), Orenburg, Vladivostok, Kaliningrad, Pskov, Murmansk, Vologda, Petrozavodsk, Veliky Novgorod, and Arkhangelsk) were trained. 49,2% (31 persons) of trainees were female. The participants were substance abuse professionals including 7 representatives from Federal Drug Control Service from St. Petersburg and Moscow, 3 national and 6 international experts delivered the presentations during this event.

The seminar's participants were provided with an overview of evidence-based monitoring approaches to assess effectiveness of substance dependence treatment, rehabilitation and HIV prevention among IDUs. Some presentations were focused on evaluation tools used in drug addiction: screening, drug treatment process evaluation, diagnosis tools, dual diagnosis, and severity of addiction (Addiction Severity Index), outcomes evaluation, and quality of life. Participants worked in small groups to discuss monitoring and evaluation needs in their respective regions in relation to measurement of substance dependence treatment outcomes. All participants filled out the evaluation forms.

**Activity 4.4.1** The survey on outcomes measurement of treatment and rehabilitation of substance users including HIV-positive IDUs conducted in Orenburg and St. Petersburg.

*Planned targets.* Data on treatment & rehabilitation outcomes of 30-50 HIV-positive IDUs (using ASI) are collected.

*Achieved results.* Data on 50 patients from Orenburg, and 50 – from St. Petersburg were collected and analyzed. Data on rehabilitation outcomes of patients with substance dependence including HIV-positive IDUs that were interviewed using the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) are available.

It was expected to organize data collection of rehabilitation outcomes of HIV-positive IDUs at both sites (50 clients in Orenburg and 50 clients - in St. Petersburg). Technical advice to Orenburg partners regarding the study design and the research sample was provided by national consultant (April 2008) and an international expert (June 2008). All recruited patients were interviewed using the Addiction Severity Index and informed about 3-months follow-up interview. At the follow-up study the participants were stratified into 2 groups:

Group 1: rehabilitation program' participants who completed at least 3 month rehabilitation program during the study period;

Group 2: rehabilitation program' participants patients who cut off rehabilitation during the study period.

Patients from the Group 2 who were not appeared for follow-up interview were marked as 'drop-out' group. Percent of 'drop-out' patients of all included patients was calculated as evaluation criteria as well. At ASI follow-up interview patients were received additional questionnaire on their opinions and attitudes towards the rehabilitation programs they had participated (patient satisfaction form).

During January –February 2009 the data analysis was carried out by NGO "Bureau on Drug Problems" (Orenburg) and OOO Rusmedica (St. Petersburg). In March 2009 analysis of rehabilitation outcomes of patients with substance dependence including HIV-positive IDUs that were interviewed using the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) was completed at both sites. The results of the survey on rehabilitation outcomes are presented in the form of scientific articles.

On 21 May 2009 the results of the survey on rehabilitation outcomes of 50 patients with substance dependence including HIV-positive IDUs were presented by OOO 'Rusmedica' at the section "Issue of Importance of Outpatient Substance Dependence Treatment" within an International Scientific Conference conducted by Bekhterev Research Psychoneurological Institute in St. Petersburg. 24 substance dependence professionals (doctors and psychologists) enlarged their knowledge on practical application of Addiction Severity Index (ASI) in substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation.

**Activity 4.4.2** Organization of a Regional workshop to present findings on assessment of substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation outcomes of HIV Positive IDUs in Orenburg.



On 15 May 2009 the Regional workshop to present findings on assessment of substance dependence treatment and rehabilitation outcomes of HIV positive IDUs was organized in Orenburg. 40 substance dependence professionals, psychologists, and social workers from Orenburg and Orenburg region actively benefited from the event. The results of the findings on evaluation of effectiveness of rehabilitation of substance users using Addiction Severity Index tool were presented and the scientific article was disseminated among participants of the Regional workshop.

Table 4: List of training events under Output 4

Name of USG Implementing Partner(s)	Title of Training	Training Location (city)	Training Start Date	Training End Date	Training Duration (hours)	Number Trained
MedAlliance Ltd	Working seminar on M&E of the pre- and post-release programs	Orenburg	10 September 2007	11 September 2007	10	10
MedAlliance Ltd	Working seminar on M&E of the pre- and post-release programs	St. Petersburg	13 September 2007	14 September 2007	10	12
MedAlliance Ltd	Monitoring and evaluation of pre- and post-release medical and social services	Orenburg	15 April 2008	15 April 2008	5,5	8
MedAlliance Ltd	Monitoring and evaluation of pre- and post-release medical and social services	St. Petersburg	23 April 2008	23 April 2008	5,5	10
ANO "Bureau on Drug Use Problems", St. Petersburg Research Psycho-Neurologic Bekhterev Institute	Practical application of Addiction Severity Index (ASI) in drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation	Orenburg	23 April 2008	25 April 2008	15	15
ANO "Bureau on Drug Problems"	Training seminar in order to improve skills on practical ASI application	Orenburg	24 June 2008	26 June 2008	16,5	11
OOO Rusmedica, St. Petersburg Research Psycho-Neurologic Bekhterev Institute	Practical application of Addiction Severity Index (ASI) in drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation	St. Petersburg	18, 19 September 2008	22 September 2008	15	12
ANO "Bureau on Drug Abuse Problems"	Regional workshop on practical application of Addiction Severity Index to assess drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation outcomes of HIV positive IDUs.	Orenburg	15 May 2009	15 May 2009	8 h 30 min	40
UNODC CORUS	Seminar-training Addiction Severity Index: UNODC Treatment	St. Petersburg	27 January 2010	29 January 2010	17 h	20 (12 females, 8 males)
UNODC CORUS	Evidence-based monitoring approaches connected to the 5th GAP seminar in Northwest Russia	St. Petersburg	14 April 2010	15 April 2010	9 h	63 (29 females, 34 males)



## Phase II: 1 April 2011 – 31 December 2012

In February 2011 USAID/Russia approved new UNODC PORUS proposal for project cost-extension. Under the Modification N5 of the grant 118-G-00-06-00035-00 (dated 6 February 2011) USAID/Russia committed to increase the total estimated amount for the project by \$1,500,000 and to extend the time frame of the project for 3 years period (01 April 2011 - 31 March 2014) till 31 March 2014.

As of 31 December 2009, 567,558 people living with HIV were registered in the Russian Federation.<sup>1</sup> On average, 37.2% of the injecting drug users live with HIV<sup>2</sup>; in some regions HIV prevalence in this group is 75%<sup>3</sup>. According to official statistics, from 1987 to 2008 about 80% of HIV cases were associated with the use of injecting drugs.<sup>4</sup> About 11% of the people living with HIV, and who are aware of their diagnosis, are in penitentiary institutions.<sup>5</sup> In some cities, up to 90% of people who use injecting drugs are infected with hepatitis C.<sup>6</sup>

With UNODC support, a *comprehensive model of pre- and post-release care service* implemented by NGOs in close collaboration with networks of governmental organizations in St. Petersburg and Orenburg were developed (2007-2010). The networks provide a range of HIV-related services to former inmates including people who inject drugs. Both networks received governmental buy-in and serve as examples of sustainability achieved by NGOs working on HIV/AIDS. Other US Government (USG) partners also have contributed to improvements in care services for HIV-positive inmates as well as to better coordination of services between the prison and civilian sectors. The experience supported by the USG, other international and Russian partners in HIV prevention and care in places of detention and post-release needed to be evaluated, described and institutionalized.

Therefore, it was expected that in 2011-2014 UNODC will initiate *policy work at the federal level to promote update of national legislation and normative frameworks on improving HIV prevention and care services for prisoners and former inmates*.

It was expected that UNODC will convene a *Federal Working group of narcological experts* from the federal and regional levels under the guidance of the National Research Centre on Addictions (NRCA). This working group will analyze effectiveness and results of successful regional models of HIV prevention and care for people who inject drugs. On the basis of this analysis, it was expected that UNODC will guide the *process of developing recommendations for the update of national legislation and normative frameworks on improving HIV prevention, treatment and care for IDUs within the narcological system*.

*The State Anti-Drug Policy Strategy of the Russian Federation for the Period until 2020* approved by the President of the Russian Federation in June 2010 stimulated policy discussions among professionals and policy makers related to different aspects of substance dependence treatment/rehabilitation and HIV prevention and care for people who inject drugs.

It was planned that UNODC will promote a favorable environment for *high level policy dialogue* and sharing of international best practices on evidence-based HIV prevention and care, and substance dependence treatment interventions and their adaptation in the Russian Federation.

<sup>1</sup> Информационный бюллетень. 34 Федерального научно-методического центра по профилактике и борьбе со СПИДом Российской Федерации, Москва, 2010. С. 5. (Information Bulletin No. 34 of the Federal Scientific-Methodological Center for the Prevention and Control of AIDS in the Russian Federation. Moscow, 2010, p. 5) [http://www.hivrussia.org/files/bul\\_34.pdf](http://www.hivrussia.org/files/bul_34.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> World Drug Report of the UNODC, 2009. p. 57.

<sup>3</sup> Rospotrebnasozor (2010) *Country Progress Report of the Russian Federation on the Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS* Adopted at the 26th United Nations General Assembly Special Session. June 2001 Reporting period: January 2008 – December 2009

<sup>4</sup> Информационный бюллетень. 33 Федерального научно-методического центра по профилактике и борьбе со СПИДом Российской Федерации, Москва, 2009. С. 13. (Information Bulletin No. 33 of the Federal Scientific-Methodological Center for the Prevention and Control of AIDS in the Russian Federation. Moscow, 2009, p. 13) [http://www.hivrussia.ru/files/bul\\_33.pdf](http://www.hivrussia.ru/files/bul_33.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> According to the data of the Medical Administration of the Federal Penitentiary Service (FSIN) of the Russian Federation: <http://www.poz.ru/news/?id=2682>

<sup>6</sup> According to a study conducted among street drug users in St. Petersburg. UNODC, the NGO Stellite, March, 2010.

In the Phase II of the project UNODC planned to continue provision of advice and guidance to government and NGOs on effective measures to scale up comprehensive HIV prevention packages for people who use drugs, and on reduction of stigma and discrimination towards most-at-risk groups.

The Phase II of the project was planned for the period from 1 April 2011 -31 March 2014. However, due to the Russian government's decision the Donor (USAID/Russia) terminated its activities in the Russian Federation starting from October 1, 2012 (a letter of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 12 September, 2012). UNODC PORUS was requested by the Donor (USAID) to terminate RUSJ12 project beginning October 1, 2012, end activities and start an orderly close out of USAID-funded project, to be completed on 31 December 2012.



**Outcome 5.** Narcological services integrate HIV prevention and care practices at all stages of substance dependence treatment.

**Output 5.** Establishment of Thematic (federal level) Working Group on integration of HIV prevention and care practices at all stages of substance dependence treatment.

**Achievements on indicators/targets:**

**Planned targets:**

- Thematic (federal level) Working Group (TWG) on integration of HIV prevention and care practices at all stages of substance dependence treatment is established;
- Number of TWG meetings and visit to regions conducted;
- Number of recommendations to normative documents on integrated HIV programs for people who inject drugs for narcological services developed;
- (new) Number of comprehensive low-threshold HIV-prevention and care services for people who inject drugs established and supported.
- (new) Number of PWID clients covered by low-threshold HIV-prevention and care services.

**Achieved results:**

- (2011). The Federal Thematic Working Group (FTWG) on integration of HIV prevention and care practices for people who inject drugs at all stages of substance dependence treatment is established.
- (2011-2012). Six meetings (4 - Federal level; 2 - regional) and one experts' visit is conducted. Four meetings of the Federal Thematic Working Group (FTWG) on integration of HIV prevention and care practices for people who inject drugs (PWID) into substance dependence treatment system were carried out (19 September 2011, 19 December 2011, 29 March and 14 June 2012). Two meetings devoted issues of comprehensive HIV prevention and care services for PWID were conducted at regional level (17 April, Perm; 24 April, St. Petersburg). One experts' visit was conducted (23 April, St. Petersburg).
- Four recommendations to normative documents on integrated HIV programs for IDUs for narcological services were developed. Activities to achieve the current indicator were planned for 2013. However, USAID/Russia requested UNODC PORUS to terminate the project starting from 1 October, 2012.
- (new) Three low-threshold HIV-prevention programs for IDUs at two sites (St. Petersburg, Perm) were established and supported.
- 1,510 new IDU clients (54,9% (830) are women) were covered by lowthreshold HIV-prevention and care services.

**Activity 5.1** Support establishment of Thematic Working group on integration of HIV prevention and care practices at all stages of substance dependence treatment.

The *Federal Thematic Working Group (FTWG)* on preparation of recommendations for normative documents on integration of HIV prevention and care practices for people who inject drugs (PWID) into substance dependence treatment system was established. The Federal Thematic Working Group (FTWG) comprises the representatives of the Ministry of Health (National Research Centre on Addictions), the Federal Scientific and Methodological Center on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control, Russian Federal Service on Surveillance (Rosпотребнадзор), and civil society organizations (the Center for Social Development and Information (PSI), NGO Esvero (PR of Global Fund grant, etc.). (see more under Activity 5.3).

Two recommendations were developed under FTWG to the draft Order on Provision of Medical Care to Adult Population with HIV-infection issued by the Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development (December 2011) were developed and submitted to the National Research Center on Addictions. The recommendations relates to improvement of interaction between substance dependence treatment service and infectious diseases control service on provision of HIV prevention, treatment and care interventions

for people who inject drugs. The 3<sup>rd</sup> developed recommendation was devoted to update of the existing Order “*Protocol on Management of Patients with Substance Dependence during Rehabilitation (Z50.3)*” (N500 dated of 22 October 2003, issued by the Russian Ministry of Health). It promotes further integration and improvement of HIV-related services for people who inject drugs at rehabilitation centers, coordination between HIV and narcology services in relation to ART provision, and management of clients who suffered from multiple health issues (substance dependence, HIV/TB, etc.) during the rehabilitation phase.

4<sup>th</sup> type of recommendations was focused on revision of the existing Order on Provision of Substance Dependence Treatment Services to Population of the Russian Federation (N225 dated of 9 April 2010, issued by the Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development (MoHSD)). It aims to create basis for provision of comprehensive low-threshold HIV prevention services for IDUs within narcological system (as pre-hospital care).

**Activity 5.2** Provide small grants to local partners to promote institutionalization of modern technologies to integrate HIV prevention and care practices at different stages of narcological services.

During February-July 2012 two low-threshold HIV-prevention programs for IDUs (St. Petersburg, Perm) were established and supported by UNODC PORUS.

The Charitable Foundation “Mirror” (Perm) received UNODC award for provision of low threshold HIV prevention services for people who inject drugs (PWID) through mobile NSP (covered of Sverdlovsky and Leninsky districts of the City of Perm) and the stationary point at the Regional AIDS Center (covered mostly Industrialny district). The Charitable Foundation “Diakonia” with UNODC support delivered comprehensive HIV prevention services for people who inject drugs at three low-threshold centers in St. Petersburg, which covered three city districts: Centralny, Vasileostrovsky, and Vyborgsky districts. The consolidated total numbers of clients covered by the programs are provided in the Table 5.

**Table 5: Number of clients (IDUs) of low threshold HIV prevention programs (2012).**

*(M-male, F-female, P-pregnant)*

Clients	Diakonia		Mirror		Humanitarian Action		Total		Grand Total
	M	F	M	F	F	P	M	F	
Total number of clients (IDUs) served.	1032	471	221	207	584	114	1253	1376	2629
Total number of new clients for the reporting period	459	202	221	207	323	98	680	830	1510
The number of clients (IDUs) who received individual counseling on HIV and other diseases transmitted through blood and sexual intercourse	1054	471	221	207	474	113	1275	1265	2540
The number of clients (IDUs) who received condoms	748	252	200	207	0	0	948	459	1407
The number of clients (IDUs) tested on HIV	96	40	49	49	314	35	145	438	583
The number of clients who received services on HIV-infection	199	129	0	0	0	0	199	129	328
The number of clients who received informational and prevention materials	116	82	0	0	458	114	116	654	770
The number of clients who received at least one medical/care service	155	79	92	105	245	111	247	540	787
The number of clients who are registered at AIDS centers and received antiretroviral therapy	19	10	0	0	0	0	19	10	29
The number of clients who received psychosocial support services	121	87	223	146	43		344	276	620



The number of clients who received counseling of doctor-narcologist	0	0	43	56	26	39	43	121	164
The number of clients consulted by STI specialist, TB specialist and/or gynecologist	0	0	0	0	46	46	0	92	92

**Activity 5.3** Organize technical round-tables of the Thematic Working Group with regional partners to discuss documents on integration of HIV prevention and care practices in narcological services and/or a standardized comprehensive package of HIV prevention and care services for IDUs.

Four meetings of the Federal Thematic Working Group (FTWG) on integration of HIV prevention and care practices for people who inject drugs (PWID) into substance dependence treatment system were carried out (19 September 2011, 19 December 2011, 29 March and 14 June 2012). The first FTWG meeting considered the FTWG Terms of Reference, its membership, the list of experts and the gaps in normative documents in relation to provision of HIV-care to IDUs within narcological system. Other three meetings were devoted to: (i) issues of normative regulation of collection of epidemiological data on addiction; (ii) interaction between substance dependence treatment service and infectious diseases control service with development of recommendations to the draft Order on Provision of Medical Care to Adult Population with HIV-infection issued by the Russian Ministry of Health and Social Development; (iii) preparation of recommendations on update of the existing Order “Protocol on Management of Patients with Substance Dependence during Rehabilitation (Z50.3)” (N500 dated of 22 October 2003, issued by the Russian Ministry of Health).

Two meetings devoted to issues of comprehensive HIV prevention and care services for PWID were conducted at regional level (17 April, Perm; 24 April, St. Petersburg).

On April 17, 2012 UNODC supported the round table organized by the Charity Foundation “Zerkalo” within IV Forum of Non-commercial Organizations of the Perm region working with drug addicts and people who inject drugs (PWID). The round table was organized between NGOs and representatives of the Administration of the Perm region and the City of Perm (the Ministry of Social Development of the Perm Region, the Ministry of Health of the Perm region, the Department of Social Policy, the Department of Public Safety of Perm), the Regional Penitentiary Service, the Regional Drug Control Service, the Office of the Ombudsman in the Perm region, the Regional AIDS Centre, the Regional Perm Narcological Dispensary. 32 people participated in the round table. Discussion was focused on implementation of the regional anti-drug program and the interaction between governmental and civil society organizations on provision of HIV related services to people who inject drugs.

On 24 April 2012 the Round-table *Comprehensive Prevention of HIV-infection among Injecting Drug Users as a Part of Support and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts in Religious Organizations* was conducted by the UNODC PORUS sub-grantee the Charity Foundation “Diakonia” in St. Petersburg. 13 people participated in the event including national experts of Federal Technical Working Group. The goals of the Round-Table were two-folded: (i) inform partners from religious organizations about comprehensive HIV prevention and care interventions for people who inject drugs; (ii) discuss experience of religious organizations in St. Petersburg in HIV prevention and rehabilitation of drug users.

**Activity 5.4** Organize visits of experts of the Thematic Working Group on integration of HIV prevention and care practices in narcological services to review models of HIV-prevention and care services for IDUs developed in the regions of the Russian Federation.

One experts’ visit was conducted to review low-threshold HIV prevention program for people who inject drugs (23-24 April, St. Petersburg). Three national experts from the *Federal Thematic Working Group (FTWG) on integration of HIV related interventions for PWID into narcological services* visited the Christian Interchurch Charitable Foundation “Diakonia” (St. Petersburg) and provided technical support to low-threshold HIV prevention program for people who inject drugs implemented under UNODC

PORUS grant. Then the team visited its partner organization ANO "Dobry Samaryanin" and had a meeting with 'trusted' narcologists at the inpatient rehabilitation program at the City Narcological Dispensary.

**Activity 5.5** Support institutionalization of the model of HIV/AIDS prevention services for IDUs in inpatient narcological hospitals (evaluation and documentation of St. Petersburg best practices).

Under this activity it was agreed with USAID/Russia to support low-threshold HIV-prevention and care services for pregnant women IDUs in St. Petersburg. In order to increase access of pregnant women IDUs to medical services and social support NGO "Humanitarian Action" organized mobile out-reach work on HIV-prevention among women who inject drugs in three St. Petersburg districts (Nevsky, Frunzensky, Krasnopresnensky) including voluntary HIV-testing and counseling, distribution of pregnancy tests for early pregnancies diagnostics among women IDUs, provision of case-management of pregnant IDUs from the stage of diagnostic until delivery, patronage of prenatal sections at medical institutions. The network of partner organizations included the following institutions: the City and Oblast AIDS Centers, the City Health Committee, the City Committee on Social Policy, District Infectious Diseases Cabinets, Dermatovenerological Dispensaries, Maternity Consulting Centers (Antenatal clinics), Botkin Infectious Diseases Clinical Hospital N30, Maternity Hospital N16, the Center of Family Planning and Reproductive Health, Districts Centers of Social Support, and six public organizations such as NGO "Nochlezhka", NGO "Ravnovesie", NGO "Innovations Center", NGO "Salvation Army", NGO "Positive Dialogue", and the Foundation of Family Consolidation. 698 female IDUs were covered by the project. The number of new clients was 421 persons. 587 female IDUs including 113 pregnant IDUs received individual counseling on prevention of HIV and other STIs (see the Table 5).

As part of advocacy strategy of the project NGO "Humanitarian Action" conducted an analysis of *the city normative documents* in the field of provision of pre-hospital care for pregnant women IDUs, particularly in relation to preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT). The analysis was made by the lawyer of the partner organization "Open Medical Club" and experts from the local working group. Based on the results of this analysis the recommendations to overcome the institutional barriers in access to basic health services for women IDUs were developed.



**Table 6: List of training events under Output 6**

<b>Name of USG Implementing Partner(s)</b>	<b>Title of Training</b>	<b>Training Location (city)</b>	<b>Training Start Date</b>	<b>Training End Date</b>	<b>Training Duration (hours)</b>	<b>Number Trained</b>
NGO "Diakonia"	Training for program personnel "HIV Prevention and Treatment, Peculiarities of Counselling for People Living with HIV", organized by NGO "Diakonia"	St. Petersburg	21 February 2012	22 February 2012	6 h	20 (12 females)

**Outcome 6.** Recommendations delivered for update of the national frameworks (normative documents) for the provision of effective evidence-based HIV-related interventions and substance dependence treatment/rehabilitation services for IDUs and PLWHA in places of detention and after release

**Output 6.** *Establishment of Technical Working Group of decision makers and experts representing Federal Penitentiary Service and narcological services.*

**Achievements on indicators/targets:**

**Planned targets:**

- Number of guidelines and normative documents ("service packages") to integrate HIV and substance dependence treatment practices for IDUs and PLWHA in places of detention and after release developed and submitted for official approval;
- Number of documented regional best practices (by sector) on effective integration of HIV prevention and care practices in prison sector;
- Technical Working Group (TWGP) of decision makers and experts representing Federal Prison Service and narcological services is established.
- Policy recommendations developed and submitted for official approval by Federal Prison Services.
- Number of published and disseminated normative documents and policy recommendations on HIV prevention and care in places of detention and post-release stages prepared by the Technical Working Group.

**Achieved results.**

- *Partially achieved.* Recommendations on provision of HIV prevention and delivery of medical and case-management psycho-social services for former inmates IDUs including HIV-positive for the Russian Probation Service developed by experts of the Federal Technical Expert Group (FTEG) on HIV prevention and care interventions in prisons for IDUs were submitted to the Russian Ministry of Justice in January 2012. More activities under this indicator were planned for 2013. However, USAID/Russia terminated the project starting from 1 October, 2012.
- *Partially achieved.* Methodical Recommendations on Continuity of Care for Female Released from Penitentiary Institutions describing experience of provision of services to HIV-positive former inmates female IDUs established in the City of St. Petersburg are developed, published (300 copies) and disseminated to national partners. More activities under this indicator were planned for 2013-2014. However, USAID/Russia terminated the project starting from 1 October, 2012.
- The Federal Technical Expert Group (FTEG) on HIV prevention and care interventions in prisons for IDUs was established in 2011. Three meetings were conducted. Three working visits were conducted. The next two FTEG meetings were planned for October and November 2012. Development of recommendations was planned for 2013. However, USAID/Russia requested UNODC PORUS to terminate the project starting from 1 October, 2012.
- Under the last two targets further activities were planned in 2013-2012. However, USAID/Russia requested UNODC PORUS to terminate the project starting from 1 October, 2012.

**Activity 6.1** Support establishment of a Technical Working Group of experts representing the Federal Penitentiary System (TWGP) and narcological services.

The Federal Technical Expert Group (FTEG) on HIV prevention and care interventions in prisons that includes decision makers and experts representing Federal Penal System and narcological services is established. In May 2011 the preliminary agreement on cooperation between UNODC PORUS and the Russian Ministry of Justice was reached during the meeting with the Deputy Minister of Justice. Three meetings of the Federal Technical Expert Group (FTEG) on HIV prevention and care interventions in prisons for IDUs were conducted (29 August, 1 November, and 13 December, 2011). The TOR of FTEG and its membership were discussed at the 1st meeting (29 August, 2011). The group includes the representatives of the Federal Penitentiary Service of the Russian Federation (Directorate of Medical and Sanitary Provision), the Federal Service on Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Wellbeing



(Rospotrebnadzor), the Russian Federal Drug Control Service, the State Anti-Drug Committee of the Russian Federation, the Russian Ministry of Justice, the National Research Center on Addictions of the Russian Ministry of Health, NGO AIDS Foundation East-West (AFEW), NGO Russian Health Care Foundation, and other civil society organizations. During the 2nd meeting the models/projects and areas of legislation were defined for development of recommendations for normative documents (1 November 2011). The recommendations on provision of HIV prevention and care services for inmates IDUs for the Russian Probation Service were developed and presented at the Federal Technical Expert group on 13 December 2011.

**Activity 6.2** Organize short-term visits of Experts of Technical Working Group to review models of care services for HIV-positive inmates developed in regions.

Two visits of FTEG in regions were carried out in 2012. On 18 May 2012 federal experts (the Deputy Chief, the Directorate of Provision of Medical Care for suspects, offenders, and prisoners and the Chief Specialist on Psychiatry/Narcology) from the Department of Medical and Sanitary Provision, the Federal Penal System of the Russian Federation visited St. Petersburg in order to take part in the round table *The Organization of Interdepartmental Cooperation in Provision of Social and Psychological Support to Women Released from Prisons*. The event was organized by the City Committee on Social Policy of the Government of St. Petersburg and was devoted to the launch of the city program for *provision of medical and social services to HIV-positive female former inmates including IDUs*. The city model was developed with support of UNODC PORUS grants in 2010-2011 and is institutionalized by the City Government at the end of March 2012. 38 professionals from penitentiary institutions, the City Crisis Center for Women, and District Centers for Social Support to Families and Children in Saint-Petersburg participated in the event.

On 30 August 2012 FTEG experts participated in the round table *“A Comprehensive Approach to HIV Prevention among Prisoners, Treatment and Care for HIV infection in Prisons and After Release: Issues of Interagency Cooperation at Post-release Stage”*. The group of experts comprised of five people: Deputy Chief, the Directorate of Provision of Medical Care for suspects, offenders, and prisoners, the Russian Federal Penitentiary Service; Chief Specialist, Psychiatry/Narcology, the Russian Federal Penitentiary Service; Director of the Centre of TB care for HIV-infected, the Russian Ministry of Health; Director of Social Bureau “Phoenix”, Kazan (state organization), and an Analyst of Public Health Programs, the Fund “Centre for Social Development and Information” (PSI). 31 professionals participated in the event. The goals of the Round-Table were two-folded: (i) inform Barnaul local officials about the necessity of developing comprehensive and integrated approach to integration of HIV related services into practice of penitentiary system; (ii) discuss local achievements in establishment of effective *interagency cooperation in provision of HIV related interventions*, tuberculosis control measures, and social support for released inmates.

**Activity 6.3** Organize at least three round-tables of TWGP with regional partners to discuss developed documents.

Three meetings of the Federal Technical Expert Group (FTEG) on HIV prevention and care interventions in prisons that includes decision makers and experts representing Federal Penitentiary Service and narcological services were carried out (29 August, 1 November and 13 December 2011). During these meetings the models/projects and areas of legislation were defined for development of recommendations for normative documents (1 November 2011). The recommendations on provision of HIV prevention and care services for inmates IDUs for the *Russian Probation Service* were developed and presented at the Federal Technical Expert group on 13 December 2011.

**Activity 6.4** Support of practices on establishment of the City model of medico-social services to HIV-positive female IDUs, who are former detainees in the City of St. Petersburg.

During the reporting period UNODC PORUS provided on competitive basis a grant to St. Petersburg public organization “Doctors to Children” on establishment of HIV-prevention and care services for

female inmates IDUs including HIV-positive and for female former detainees in St. Petersburg. Under this grant NGO “Doctors to Children” cooperated closely with the City Committee on Social Policy of the Government of St. Petersburg, the Federal Penitentiary Service of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast, the Correctional Institution N2, and the City Crisis Centre for Women. UNODC grantee St. Petersburg public organization “Doctors for Children” worked with HIV-positive women inmates at the female correctional institution N2 (see the results in the Table 1) and provided psycho-social support to female IDUs including HIV-positive at pre-release stage in St. Petersburg (see the results in the Table 2).

**Table 7: Number of clients and services provided at pre-release stage (in prison setting) (2011)**

Pre-release services provided	N. of clients
HIV prevention interventions	508
Individual consultations on ART adherence	215
Consultations of a psychologist and a social worker	218
Individual motivational counseling (by drug dependence treatment specialist)	130

**Table 8: Number of clients and services provided at post-release stage (2011)**

Post-release services provided	Number of clients	Number of services
Individual consultations on ART adherence	53	53
Consultations of a psychologist and a social worker	85	557
Individual motivational counselling (by drug dependence treatment specialist)	23	23
Participation in meetings of self-support groups	47	13 (groups)
Taken on case management	88	88
Medical examination at the AIDS Center	42	42
Consultations conducted via phone (help line)		428

During the reporting period a package of normative documents for the Department of Social Rehabilitation of Women in crisis situations including HIV-positive women IDUs former inmates was developed and submitted for review and approval to the Deputy Chairman of the City Committee on Social Policy, Government of St. Petersburg.

The pre-release activities at the female correctional institution N2 included information, education and communication activities, group sessions on HIV prevention and behavior change, provision of condoms, individual counseling on HIV and STIs prevention, individual consultations conducted by substance dependence treatment professional, consultations provided by a psychologist and /or social worker. (See the Table 9).

**Table 9: Number of clients covered by HIV-related services at pre-release stage (2012)**

Number of clients	Women inmates	Women inmates IDUs	Total
Number of women inmates participated in group meetings on HIV prevention and risky behavior	243	170	413
Number of women inmates participated in individual counseling sessions on HIV prevention, and prevention of	100	149	249



other blood born and sexually transmitted diseases (hepatitis B and C, syphilis)			
Number of women inmates, who were individually consulted by a doctor-narcologist (motivation counseling, consultations on overdose prevention)	-	177	177

Post-release services were provided by NGO staff at the City Crisis Center for Women and included (i) consultations via helpline; (ii) social-psychological and legal support, (iii) self-help support groups, (iv) referral to medical and social institutions. (see the Table 10).

**Table 10. Number of clients and services provided at post-release stage (2012)**

Number of clients/services	Released women	Released female IDUs	Total
Number of women, released from prisons, who received at least one medical/care service	16	33	49
Number of HIV-positive women registered at AIDS Center	14	24	38
Number of HIV-positive women, who are registered at AIDS-center and receiving antiretroviral therapy	8	29	37
Number of HIV-positive women, who began an antiretroviral therapy in prison, and continue ART after release	2	9	11
Number of women received consultations of narcologists	-	34	34
Number of women received consultations of gynecologist, STI, tuberculosis, and infectious disease specialists	8	21	29
Number of women referred and completed detox at narcological hospital	-	7	7
Total number of case-management services provided			
<i>helpline consultations</i>		457	457
<i>psychologist consultations</i>	36	97	175 incl. 42 family members
<i>social worker consultations</i>			
<i>participated in support groups</i>	36	97	133
<i>support with documents restoration</i>	9	34	43
	3	14	17

**Activity 6.5** Drafting, printing, and dissemination of normative documents and policy recommendations on HIV prevention and care in places of detention and post-release prepared by the Technical Working Group.

Methodical Recommendations on *Continuity of Care for Female Released from Penitentiary Institutions* were developed (2011), published (300 copies), and disseminated to national partners (see the link to UNODC PORUS website [www.unodc.org/russia](http://www.unodc.org/russia)).

**Table 11: List of training events under Output 6**

<b>Name of USG Implementing Partner(s)</b>	<b>Title of Training</b>	<b>Training Location (city)</b>	<b>Training Start Date</b>	<b>Training End Date</b>	<b>Training Duration (hours)</b>	<b>Number Trained</b>
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Medical and Psycho-Social Aspects of HIV infection. Increase tolerance to PLWHA	Ulianovsk village	20 January 2011	20 January 2011	5 h 15 m	15 (7 females)
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Organization of Medico-Social Support of Women Released from Penitentiary Institutions including HIV-positive women who had experience of using psychoactive substances	Ulianovsk village	25 January 2011	25 January 2011	4 h 45 m	15 (7 females)
NGO "Vrachi Detyam"	Organization of Medico-Social Support of Women Released from Penitentiary Institutions including HIV-positive women who had experience of using psychoactive substances	Ulianovsk village	31 January 2011	31 January 2011	4 h 30 m	24 (20 females)



**Outcome 7.** Decision makers and health professionals apply knowledge on effective models of integrated care and social support for IDUs and HIV-positive IDUs, substance dependence treatment programs

**Output 7.** *Conduct national master classes on effective models of integrated care and social support for IDUs and HIV-positive IDUs, substance dependence treatment programs.*

**Achievements on indicators/targets:**

*Planned target.*

- At least 60 decision makers and public health officials at federal and regional levels who benefited from capacity building opportunities (by gender) and capable to implement and promote comprehensive and integrated HIV and substance dependence treatment services.

*Partially achieved.*

- 40 substance dependence treatment professionals (22 male and 18 female) from regional level benefited from capacity building opportunities. The last master-class was planned for 2013. However, USAID/Russia terminated the project starting from 1 October, 2012.

**Activity 7.1** Two master-classes "*Innovative Methods of Provision of Integrated Narcological Assistance to HIV-Positive Injecting Drug Users*" for substance dependence treatment professionals were carried out by UNODC PORUS in Moscow on 9-11 November 2011 and 27-29 February 2012. The goals of the master-classes were (i) to familiarize participants with the methods of narcological support for people who inject drugs (PWID) with HIV-infection; (ii) provide examples of comprehensive HIV prevention and care programs for PWID in Russian regions and in USA; (iii) provide information about HIV/AIDS epidemiology, and discuss support to IDU patients with HIV/TB and co-infections. 40 professionals from 26 regions of the Russian Federation were trained during the master-class. 55% (22 persons) of trainees were female (see the Table 12).

**Table 12: List of training events under Output 7**

<b>Name of USG Implementing Partner(s)</b>	<b>Title of Training</b>	<b>Training Location (city)</b>	<b>Training Start Date</b>	<b>Training End Date</b>	<b>Training Duration (hours)</b>	<b>Number Trained</b>
UNODC PORUS jointly with National Research Center on Addictions, the Russian Ministry of Health	Master-class on Innovative Methods of Provision of Integrated Narcological Assistance to HIV-Positive Injecting Drug Users	Moscow	9 November 2011	11 November 2011	14 h 30 m	20 (Including 9 females)
UNODC PORUS jointly with National Research Center on Addictions, the Russian Ministry of Health	Master-class on Innovative Methods of Provision of Integrated Narcological Assistance to HIV-Positive Injecting Drug Users	Moscow	27 February 2012	29 February 2012	14 h 30 m	20 (Including 9 females)



**Outcome 8.** Policy makers, experts and civil society to promote improvement of narcological services as means of HIV prevention, through high level dialogue

**Output 8.** *High level policy dialogue among policy makers, experts and civil society to promote comprehensive HIV prevention package for IDUs.*

**Achievements on indicators/targets:**

*Planned targets:*

- Number of decision makers and public health officials at federal and regional levels who benefited from policy dialogue (by gender).
- Policy discussions among professionals and policy makers related to different aspects of substance dependence treatment and HIV prevention and care among IDUs are promoted.

*Achieved results:*

- 267 decision makers and public health officials at federal and regional levels benefited from policy dialogues (141 – male; 126 - female).
- Six policy level discussions among professionals and policy makers were promoted during the reporting period.

The first event was devoted to the necessity of evidence based interventions in development of standards of substance dependence treatment and HIV prevention and care among IDUs. UNODC PORUS supported the Substance Dependence Treatment Symposium entitled as *Evidence Based Research as the Basis for Standardization in Substance Dependence Treatment* in St. Petersburg (27 October, 2011). The goal of the symposium was to consider the situation in Russian narcology with development of standards of substance dependence treatment, which should be based on evidence based research data. 70 public health professionals (43 – male; 27 – female) benefited from this policy dialogue.

The second event was focused on *the right to health* for drug users with HIV positive status in the Russian Federation. Under the framework of joint UN initiative (UNAIDS, ILO, UNFPA, UNESCO) “*High level policy dialogue on stigma and discrimination and punitive laws towards people living with HIV*” UNODC PORUS supported preparation of recommendations “*Observation and protection of right to health for drug users with HIV positive status in Russia*”. These recommendations were presented at the Russian State Duma round table discussion on “*The right to labor, health and education for people living with HIV in Russia*” (17 October, 2011, Moscow). 63 representatives (29 - male; 34 - female) of legislative and executive authorities, associations, trade unions and employers, academia, civil society, and international organizations (ILO, UNAIDS, UNODC, UNFPA, and UNESCO) participated in the event.

The third event was related to consideration of the report on HIV/AIDS epidemiological situation in the Russian Federation. UNODC PORUS provided support to the conference *Improvement of Supervision on Effectiveness of HIV Prevention Activities in the Russian Federation* (6-7 December, 2011, Suzdal, Vladimir region), organized by the Russian Federal Service on Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Wellbeing (Rospotrebnadzor). UNODC PORUS regional partners presented models of comprehensive HIV services for women who inject drugs and released from prisons (St. Petersburg and Orenburg experience).

The fourth event was support to the Russian Public Chamber Hearings on *Prevention of Social Significant Diseases including the Complete Elimination of HIV Transmission from Mother to Child and Work with Vulnerable Groups. Proposals to the Concept of Control for HIV infection in the Russian Federation for 2012-2015. Mechanisms for Participation of NGOs in Provision of Services to Vulnerable Populations*. UNODC PORUS supported the dialogue between parliamentarians, human rights bodies, legal specialists, public health leaders, civil society, and key populations on development of the *Concept of Control for HIV infection in the Russian Federation for 2012-2015* and inclusion of HIV prevention programming for people who inject drugs and in prisons into this document. UNODC PORUS facilitated collection of recommendations from experts, which were further included in the Public Chamber

Hearings Recommendations. 49 experts (31 – male; 18 - female) benefited from participation in the hearings.

The fifth event was focused on advocacy for inclusion of HIV prevention programs for IDUs and prisoners into the Strategy on HIV Prevention in the Russian Federation and into national standards of HIV-prevention. With regards to abovementioned UNODC PORUS carried out the session on *"Medical and Social Support for Vulnerable Populations including People who Inject Drugs and PLWHIV"* within the national meeting *"HIV-Infection and Substance Dependence: Epidemiological Surveillance, Prevention, and Treatment Adherence"* (May 31, 2012) organized by the Federal Service for Surveillance (Rosпотребнадзор) and the National Research Center on Addictions of the Russian Ministry of Health. 43 public health professionals (14 – male; 29 - female) benefited from the session.

The Recommendations developed at the UNODC PORUS round table were included into the final Resolution of the national meeting *"HIV-Infection and Substance dependence: Epidemiological Surveillance, Prevention, and Treatment Adherence"* (30 May- 1 June 2012, Moscow). These Recommendations reflect (i) necessity of development of *the Strategy on HIV Prevention in the Russian Federation*, and (ii) the necessity of inclusion of HIV prevention programs for people who inject drugs and in prisons into this Strategy, into the National Program on HIV control and its Financial Framework.

The sixth event was devoted to raising awareness of substance dependence treatment professionals on comprehensive HIV-prevention and care services for people who inject drugs, sharing local experience on effectiveness of NSPs programs in 33 cities of the Russian Federation, and highlighting the necessity of integration of medical and psychosocial care for people who inject drugs. UNODC PORUS supported the session entitles as *"A Comprehensive Approach to HIV Prevention among People Who Inject Drugs"* in St. Petersburg (30 November 2012). 42 public health professionals (24 – male; 18 – female) benefited from the session.



## Findings & Lessons Learned

The project has contributed to strengthening the capacity of the national and regional partners to respond to HIV prevention and care among injecting drug users, sex-workers/ drug users and in prisons. By the end of 2012, the project supported four HIV prevention and care programs for injecting drug users and prisoners implemented by civil society organizations in two pilot regions. From onset of the project, more than 3,232 drug users and 153 ex-prisoners (mostly injecting drug users) have been covered by the project supported HIV/AIDS prevention and care services.

The project made the case for a broad collaboration in the areas of drug use and HIV/AIDS at the federal and regional levels. This collaboration helped introduce effective social service models for IDUs and those living with HIV including pre- and post-release services for inmates and ex-prisoners.

The tailored advocacy events are regarded to be of high quality. Many participants in our self-evaluation praise the balanced evidence-based approach that aims to find supporters and opportunities build bridges and partnerships.

The added value of the project is that it has outlined conceptual grounds for new initiatives concerning alternatives to incarceration for injecting drug users and subsequent reformation related to voluntary/involuntary drug use treatment. Moreover, the project has opened venues for a cluster of interventions that may be performed within the framework of other similar initiatives aimed at capacity building of social services to organize and provide integrated services for injecting drug users, sex worker/drug users, ex-prisoner and current inmates both people injecting drugs and those living with HIV.

The existing political and regulatory environment of the Russian Federation call for continuing focus at the policy level to help the country formulate a clear position with respect to the HIV prevention, treatment and care among most at risk populations including injecting drug users and those in custodial settings.

## Challenges

In 2010 two principal political documents were adopted in the Russian Federation: the “*State Anti-Drug Policy Strategy of the Russian Federation in the Period until 2020*” The State Anti-Drug Policy Strategy of the Russian Federation until 2020 <http://graph.document.kremlin.ru/page.aspx?1:1285491> approved on 9 June 2010 by the President of the Russian Federation, and the “*Plan for the Implementation of the State Anti-Drug Policy Strategy of the Russian Federation until 2020*” Plan for the Implementation of the State Anti-Drug Policy Strategy of the Russian Federation until 2020 <http://stratgap.ru/pages/strategy/3662/3887/4548/4580/index.shtml> approved by the State Anti-Drug Committee of the Russian Federation on 24 September 2010.

The new State Anti-Drug Policy Strategy of the Russian Federation until 2020 and the Plan of its Implementation stipulate an unacceptability of substitution treatment with methadone and buprenorphine (paras 4, 32 of the Strategy; para 2.2.2. of the Plan). This ban directly contradicts WHO/UNODC/UNAIDS documents, in which substitution treatment with use of opioid agonists is recommended for inclusion into the range of available and accessible drug dependence treatment options.

Paragraph 48 of the State Anti-Drug Policy Strategy lists “attempts to legalize substitution therapy with use of narcotic drugs and promotion of drug use under pretext of syringe replacement” as “partially manageable risks for implementation of the Strategy”.

Paragraph 2.2.2. of the Plan stipulates a responsibility of the Federal Drug Control Service (FDCS) and the Federal executive agencies to develop by the end of 2012 “proposals on legal restrictions on the territory of the Russian Federation of organizations whose activities are aimed at drawing [public] attention to alternative methods of drug treatment (substitution therapy, harm reduction and other)” The text of the Plan is on the web site of the State Anti Drug Committee. <http://www.stratgap.ru/pages/strategy/3662/3887/4548/4580/index.shtml>.

Despite the evidence of effectiveness of OST Guidelines for the psychosocially assisted pharmacological treatment of opioid dependence. WHO, 2009. WHO and the positive assessment of harm reduction projects in the Russian Federation, conducted under the auspice of the Parliamentary group on HIV of the Federal Parliament of the Russian Federation «Evidence-based medicine and harm reduction programs for HIV prevention among vulnerable groups». Report of the working group on comprehensive analysis and studying of effectiveness of HIV prevention and public health based on harm reduction approach, 2010. on-line: [esvero.ru/files/doklad2010.pdf](http://esvero.ru/files/doklad2010.pdf), the public health officials continue to affirm that OST and harm reduction programs were ineffective.

UNODC PORUS monitored ongoing political and institutional changes within the Russian state structures/ministries. On 21 May 2012 President Vladimir Putin announced changes to the Cabinet. The Ministry of Health and Social Development Ministry, headed by Ms. Tatiana Golikova, was split into the Health Ministry and the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry, which now are headed by Former Deputy Health and Social Development Minister Veronika Skvortsova and Maxim Topilin, respectively. Another UNODC partner organization - the Federal Service on Surveillance in Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Wellbeing of the Russian Federation (Rospotrebnadzor) is now subordinate to the Government. Changes of personnel (decision-makers) at both structures were going until end September 2012.

Changes in government al structures had negative impact on project progress in the phase II.

Russian government's took decision the Donor (USAID/Russia) terminated its activities in the Russian Federation starting from October 1, 2012 (a letter of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affair dated 12 September, 2012). As a result USAID/Russia requested UNODC PORUS to terminate the project starting from 1 October, 2012.



## Monitoring

The UNODC project coordinator is responsible for monitoring of the project activities and site visits. Information is collected and analyzed on a quarterly basis including information on number of people trained, pre-and post- training/seminar evaluation, publications (normative documents and policy recommendations), and the number of services provided. All collected data are gender disaggregated.

On 16 March, 2012 UNODC PORUS team carried out *Training on Program, Managerial, Budgetary, and M&E issues to Implementing Agencies/sub grantees* in St. Petersburg. Three UNODC PORUS sub-grantees, participated in the training event: Christian Interchurch Charitable Foundation "Diakonia", St. Petersburg Charitable Public Foundation of Medico-Social Program "Humanitarian Action", and St. Petersburg public organization "Vrachi Detaym". Each organization was represented by the team that consisted of the head of organization/project, person responsible for monitoring and evaluation, and an accountant.

The goals of the training event were four -folded: (i) discuss program approach on the package of key HIV interventions for people who inject drugs (PWID), gender-oriented interventions in HIV response and major challenges in implementation of HIV prevention programs for vulnerable groups; (ii) discuss reporting issues: requirements to technical quarterly and final reports; reporting time line, success stories, information for websites; (iii) update on requirements to financial reports; (iv) sub-grants' data collection, monitoring, and evaluation. This meeting was not only the training event, but it was also an activity undertaken to analyze and share information with stakeholders regarding project progress and results achieved.

The participants were provided with brief presentations on the general rules and regulations on grants utilization, several aspects of the grant agreements, and procedures to be followed at the stage of financial reporting. The participants were offered open discussions on challenges they meet working with UNODC, shared views on the difficulties and raise questions related to reporting. Special attention was given to strengthening M&E capacity of partner organizations. Sub-grantees presented information on the process of data collection within the grants. Qualitative and quantitative indicators, format of tables to collect M&E data on clients and services were discussed.

According to the Donor's request UNODC Project Coordinator also collected on regular basis the set of PEPFAR monitoring indicators. Every year UNODC Project Coordinator submitted to USAID/Russia Semi-Annual Reports (in April) and Annual Technical Project Reports (APR) (in October) including tables with achievement on specific PEPFAR's indicators.

## Evaluation

The Final Independent Evaluation of the Phase I of UNODC project was conducted during January-March 2011. The mission of the independent evaluator to the Russian Federation took place on 16- 25 February 2011 and included the following site visits: Moscow, St. Petersburg and Orenburg. The evaluator had meetings with federal and regional project counterparts (National Research Center on Addictions; Federal Penitentiary Service; Orenburg Administration; Government of the City of St. Petersburg, etc.) and with the Donor (USAID/Russia). Evaluation was carried out in a fully transparent way with wide involvement of state and civil society partners. *The Final Evaluation Report* of the Phase I of UNODC project covering the period 29 August 2006 – 31 March 2011 was completed and approved by UNODC Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) in May 2011.

The major recommendations were the following: (i) use established high quality services as regional (site) models to guide the review/ update of the national normative frameworks for provision of effective evidence-based HIV-related interventions for IDUs and PLWHIV in places of detention and after release; (ii) establish the Technical Working Group of decision makers and experts representing Federal Penitentiary Services and narcological services; (iii) develop (by the Technical Working Group) and submit for official approval policy recommendations and normative documents on HIV prevention and care in places of detention and post-release; (iv) provide technical assistance and joint efforts with active involvement of all international and national stakeholders aimed at expanding harm reduction interventions and acceptance thereof in full comprehensive package of intervention for injecting-drug users incorporating needle and syringe exchange programs (NSP) and medically assisted therapy (MAT) of opioid dependence; (v) support development of mechanisms for engagement of the civil society organizations and the affected communities into the processes of decision-making on programming of health interventions and legislation and normative basis for their active involvement and participation in designing and provision of services; (vi) support high level policy dialogue among policy makers, experts and civil society to promote comprehensive HIV prevention package for IDUs and in prisons.

In June 2011 UNODC Project Coordinator developed a plan for the implementation of recommendations (*RUS 12 Evaluation Follow up plan*) based on Evaluation Report.

Due to the *termination of the phase II of RUSJ12 project* starting from October 1, 2012 UNODC PORUS discussed with IEU project evaluation options. Taking into consideration that the *Final Independent Evaluation of the Phase I of RUSJ12 project* covering the period 29 August 2006 – 31 March 2011 was completed in May 2011 and the political sensitivities that surround the current situation with the closure of USAID/Russia an *option of a participatory Self Evaluation (PSE) Workshop* was proposed. The evaluation covers *RUSJ12 project sub-component (Phase II)* for the period *1 April 2011- 30 September 2012* (until the force majeure project termination).

Participatory self-evaluation report was initiated and prepared by the Project Coordinator. IEU carried out quality oversight and approved the report (Step 1). The Participatory Self Evaluation (PSE) workshop (Step 2) amongst stakeholders was conducted on 17 December, 2012 at the premises of the National Centre of Addictions, the Ministry of Health. 23 professionals including stakeholders from narcological service, penitentiary service, noncommercial organizations and UNODC management benefited from the PSE. The final participatory self-evaluation workshop (Step 2) carried out by the project manager with support of HIV/AIDS Section, UNODC HQ. The Final PSE Summary with recommendations and lessons learned submitted to IEU for quality oversight and clearance.



## Recommendations

- Plan at the design stage to conduct epidemiological studies and needs assessments with regard drug use (both injecting and non-injecting), HIV situation among people who use drugs, prisoners, and other reports on drug use situation, patterns and trends;
- Continue a high level policy dialogue among policy and decision makers, academicians, professionals and civil society to promote universal access to comprehensive HIV interventions for IDUs and in prisons;
- In case of conclusion of new Agreements between UNODC and the Donor (USAID) avoid such payment option as the Periodic Advance on monthly basis;
- Develop/elaborate mechanisms for building partnerships between governmental and non-governmental organizations, and to facilitate the engagement of the civil society organizations and the affected communities into the programming of interventions as well as their active participation in the designing and provision of services;
- Consider providing technical assistance to programs that address the needs of female drug users and prisoners; interventions that address sexual violence to be properly piloted, documented, and approved by appropriate bodies;
- Use established high quality services as regional (site) models to guide the review/ update of the national normative frameworks for provision of effective evidence-based HIV-related interventions for IDUs and PLWHIV in places of detention and after release;
- Consider providing technical assistance to newly established drug referral schemes (DRS) and HIV-prevention and care services for people on probation including IDUs in order to develop fully operational models properly piloted, documented, and approved by appropriate bodies and institutionalized within the system of criminal justice;
- \* To consider provision of support necessary to sustain and scale up of HIV related services for including those living with HIV in public sector (particularly people who inject drugs) and in penitentiary settings, and increasingly provide such services through concerned public agencies and NGOs.

## Annexes

1. Manuals published under the project (see attached file *Manuals.zip*);
2. Annual Project Progress Reports 2006-2012 (see attached file *APPRs\_2006-2012.zip*);
3. Independent External Evaluation Report (see attached file *IEER.zip*)